



Saudis shoot down Iranian jet off the Gulf coast

From Robert Fisk, Bahrain

Saudi Arabia became militarily involved in the Gulf war, for the first time yesterday, when its air force intercepted an Iranian jet off its north-eastern coast and shot it down into the sea.

The Arab Gulf states had scarcely had time to weigh the implications of this - a grave development in the conflict when Tehran alleged that Iraqi air raids on the border town of Banah - in the hills of Kurdistan - had killed or wounded more than 400 civilians.

A few hours later, the Iranian state news agency grimly announced a list of Iraqi towns which would be subjected to retaliatory attack, warning their inhabitants to save their lives by fleeing their homes immediately.

It was, by any standards, a chilling day in the 44 months of war between Iran and Iraq. It began with Baghdad bracing itself for a powerful Ramadan offensive by Iranian troops and revolutionary guards east of the southern Iraqi city of Basra. It ended with the Arab Gulf states fearful that Iran might strike at Saudi Arabia, or its vulnerable allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council, in revenge for the destruction of the Iranian jet by the Saudis.

Baghdad may well have launched its own air raids in an attempt to deflect the predicted Iranian land assault. By dusk, in the interest of protecting security in the region, we hope this incident will not recur.

According to the ministry, the Saudis detected the Iranian jet - referred to throughout the statement as a target - shortly after midday as it approached the north-eastern Saudi coast-line.

The country's anti-aircraft defences at first tried to warn the jet to return north, but when it failed to do so, the Saudi Royal Air Force, presumably flying the American-built F15 fighters, which are among its front-line forces, engaged the plane and shot it down. Defence Ministry officials in Riyadh said it crashed into Gulf waters.

There was some scepticism among Gulf states last night about just what happened in the engagement. The Saudi announcement of the dogfight was couched in a curiously vague Arabic which attributed the statement to informed sources within the Defence Ministry - as if the ministry itself did not want to take responsibility.

Continued on back page, col 5



The Prince of Wales taking the salute at Ranville cemetery yesterday.

Paratroops repeat Normandy landing

From Michael Horsnell, Ranville

The Prince of Wales and a contingent of paratroops dropped into Normandy yesterday - the 40th anniversary of the D-Day landings - after a ceremony at the village of Ranville, where the first to be liberated on D-Day, Prince Charles, who is Colonel in Chief of the Parachute Regiment, thanked the 2,000 veterans present for bringing peace to his generation.

After a moving ceremony later in the British War Cemetery at the tiny village of Ranville, the first to be liberated on D-Day, Prince Charles, who is Colonel in Chief of the Parachute Regiment, thanked the 2,000 veterans present for bringing peace to his generation.

And he went on to pay solemn homage to those who gave their lives in the French Resistance.

Against the Cross of Sacrifice in the cemetery, where 2,563 servicemen are buried, he laid a wreath of red roses, signed "Charles" and bearing the inscription "in memory of those who gave their lives for their country".

His Royal Highness arrived in a helicopter of the Queen's Flight in the original dropping zone at Ranville where in the early hours of June 6, 1944, thousands of paratroopers descended to secure the eastern flank of the British invasion beaches.

The courage of the men who fought here resulted in a formidable hinge on which the entire Allied armies were to pivot and break out of the Normandy beachhead, to sweep on Paris and ultimately the heart of Germany.

Not even the IRA, which had dashed the memorial to the 13th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, could prevent the ceremony.

Continued on back page, col 3

Case for new laws 'boosted' by pits strike

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Ministers closely involved in the miners' dispute believe it has strengthened the case for changes to the laws on unlawful assembly which would enable swift deterrent action against violent picketing in future serious disputes.

They are satisfied with the operation of the criminal law during the strike and fully support the National Coal Board's decision not to take advantage of the civil law.

However, they appear strongly to favour legislation implementing the Law Commission's recommendation, delivered last October, to replace the common law offence of unlawful assembly with two new offences. One would cover violence by small groups against people and property, and the other threats of violence.

The main attractions of the commission's proposals to ministers are that they would enable such offences to be dealt with summarily in magistrates' courts and that in long disputes, such as the present one, the sentences might prove a strong deterrent to others.

The present common law offence is triable only on indictment and its deterrent value is strictly limited because cases would usually come to a crown court after the dispute had finished. The two new offences would be triable both in crown courts and by magistrates.

The commission proposed a first new offence to be known as "violent disorder".

Under a suggested Bill drafted by the commission a defendant would commit the offence by using unlawful violence provided that two or more others present were themselves using or threatening unlawful violence. The maximum penalty would be five years' jail.

The second, less serious, offence would cover the use of threats rather than actual violence.

It would require the presence together of three or more people using words or behaviour likely to cause others to fear or provoke violence. The maximum penalty proposed is two years' jail.

Ministers believe legislation introducing the new offences could form part of a package that may follow from the present review of the Public Order Act by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

Meanwhile there appears little enthusiasm among ministers for the proposal reported to have been made by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, to withdraw immunities from unions involved in strikes taken without secret ballots of members.

Mr King was apparently asked yesterday to explain his remarks at a meeting of the Cabinet's emergency committee on the coal dispute chaired by the Prime Minister.

He appears to have had an uncomfortable meeting denying newspaper reports suggesting he favoured ballot majorities of all members entitled to vote.

His colleagues, however, are less than keen on the whole idea of further civil legislation and it seems possible that it will be quietly forgotten.

Ministers remain content that the coal board has not used employment laws passed by the present Government to seek civil redress for unlawful picketing.

They are unwilling that anything should be done which might risk alienating the Nottinghamshire miners and believe that that might happen if large fines were imposed on the National Union of Mineworkers and if the courts were to order the sequestration of its assets.

Ministers, however, attach the highest importance to the actions brought by miners in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire against their union to win the right to cross picket lines and to work without reprisals.

Ministers closely involved are apparently more confident than ever about the eventual outcome of the dispute.

Yesterday Mr Neil Kinnock said Mrs Thatcher told Mr King he was "out of step" in announcing that a majority vote would be needed before a union could sanction a strike.

He said: "That was a King clang - so much of a clang that the Prime Minister pulled him back".

US seeks to allay fears of oil crisis

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

As Iran and Iraq braced themselves for a new round of full-scale warfare on the Persian Gulf, the Reagan administration yesterday sought to allay fears that the world could face a new oil crisis, similar to the one that occurred after the 1973 Middle East war, if there is a disruption of Persian Gulf oil supplies.

Mr George Shultz, the secretary of State, said in a television interview that the US had large amounts of oil in its strategic reserve and was well placed to manage the situation if shipments were halted.

Speaking from London, where he is to attend the seven-nation economic summit later this week, he added: "The big point which everyone ought to keep in mind is that we are much better off, much better prepared now than we were in 1973".

Western industrialized nations currently hold large surpluses of crude oil. The US alone has more than 400 million barrels in its strategic reserve and has said it would be prepared to sell some of this oil to foreign bidders if the Gulf is closed.

The Gulf Crisis, and the impact it could have on the west's oil supplies, will be among the main topics discussed at the London summit which begins on Friday.

According to a front-page report in the *New York Times*, President Reagan will place before the summit a US plan calling for joint allied action in the event of a significant disruption in oil supplies.

The plan calls for Europe and Japan to draw crude oil to avoid a sudden shortage in the wholesale and retail markets.

Such a response might be made without waiting for world oil supplies to fall by seven per cent - the "magic" figure - the existing oil-sharing agreement administered by the International Energy Agency would be triggered.

The newspaper said that Mr Reagan's proposal also calls on allied governments to request that oil companies sharply limit purchases in the spot market and to take other steps to discourage industrial hoarding of oil.

The key to the US strategy is to avoid the kind of panic buying which drove prices up after the 1973 war and again following the 1979 revolution in Iran.

The US takes only three per cent of its oil supplies from the Gulf, far less than western Europe or Japan. However, it is recognized that the US cannot isolate its market from the world one if Gulf supplies are interrupted.

Meanwhile, the Defence Department has sent to Saudi Arabia a new AWACS surveillance aircraft equipped with radar which can detect ships as well as planes. The new plane will improve the ability of Saudi fighters to defend tankers and other ships in the Gulf.

UK to seek blacklist of diplomats

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

President Reagan got down to serious talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher last night as senior British officials tried to dispel fears that the forthcoming London meeting of heads of government would be a so-called summit of the Gulf war.

Reagan's planned hour of talks in Downing Street and the following working dinner.

Earlier, British officials rejected American interpretations that the summit would be better termed the "haid-back summit" unlikely to achieve anything except electioneering advantage for President Reagan.

Blacklist Britain is planning to raise the question of a diplomatic "blacklist" at the summit (Henry Stanhope writes).

An international agreement under which governments would refuse entry to envoys expelled elsewhere for involvement in terrorism will be discussed, probably on the initiative of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, revealed British support for such a proposal when addressing a European conference in Madrid last week.

Along with similar questions on better communications and the surveillance of diplomatic bags, the diplomatic blacklist is now expected to come up.

Continued on back page, col 1

Reagan gun guard not new

By Anthony Bevins and Stewart Tendler

The Prime Minister told the Commons yesterday that the foreign bodyguards had been allowed to carry guns before President Reagan's current visit to London.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's home affairs spokesman, who said yesterday that he had consulted people about the matter, added: "While there may have been occasions when people came here surreptitiously with bodyguards armed, to the memory of the people involved, there has been no specific approval before".

He then denounced the decision to let President Reagan's bodyguard carry guns as an insult to the Metropolitan Police.

Meanwhile, senior Whitehall sources were clearly upset that police sources had made the decision public. They said that the Government had been persuaded that because of the senior Labour source that Israeli security men were allowed to carry weapons while guarding Mrs Golda Meir in London.

Mr Reagan said: "We are of course ultimately responsible for the security of visiting statesmen to London. We do not in fact discuss security matters. Decisions are taken after full consultation and in the light of all the circumstances."

But she added: "I am advised that in this case no precedent was broken."

The fact that Mrs Thatcher had to be advised by officials suggests that the precedent might well have been set under a previous administration. It is unlikely that she had not previously been informed of such a decision since becoming Prime Minister.

It has been suggested by a

Orchestra censures Karajan's conduct

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra is on the point of a complete break with Herbert von Karajan, its chief conductor for many years.

After a crisis meeting on Monday to discuss his sudden cancellation of a planned concert with the Berlin Philharmonic in Salzburg on June 11, the orchestra sent him a stiffly worded letter, in which he was accused of breaking the terms of his artistic agreement.

The players demanded an explanation for his decision to give the same concert in Salzburg with the Vienna Philharmonic instead.

Only two of the 100-member orchestra held back from condemning Herr von Karajan's refusal to answer their earlier telegram urging him to reconsider his decision. The players said such behaviour had not occurred in a century, and they warned the 76-year-old conductor he would have to face the consequences.

The dispute, which has been brewing for several years and flared up again last month when Sabine Meyer, a clarinetist and Herr von Karajan's protégée, resigned after a controversial probationary year, threatens to bring to an end the conductor's fruitful association with the famous orchestra.

A spokesman of Herr Volker Hassemer, Brellin's cultural senator, who is trying to mediate, said the latest developments had been unfortunate.

The spokesman suggested the conductor might use a clause in his contract with the City of Berlin, which allows him to step down whenever he chooses after the age of 65.

Piggott in pre-Derby rift

Lester Piggott, seeking to equal Frank Buckle's all-time classic record of 27 victories on Alphonse, the Derby second favourite at Epsom today, has announced he is to part company with the top flat trainer Henry Cecil at the end of the season.

Piggott, the 41-times champion jockey said, the split was inevitable because of the growing row with Cecil's main owner, the French millionaire Daniel Widenstein.

Widenstein vowed that Piggott, aged 48, would never again ride for him after the jockey turned down a winning ride on his filly All Along in last season's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

The derby has attracted 17 runners with Craig-an-Sger a late absentee.

Big-race preview Page 24

Death of woman brings plant blast toll to 15

The death of the fifteenth victim of the Abbeyfield water plant explosion leaves 25 people still in hospital suffering from burns and injuries.

Royal Preston Hospital announced yesterday that Mrs Penny Weild, aged 47, of Blackpool Road, St Michael's on Wyre, died on Sunday night from her injuries. Her husband Frank, who accompanied her on the village trip to the underground water station near Lancaster on May 23, was in the same hospital and his condition was said to be comfortable.

Post Office union defers action as talks progress

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Fears of widespread disruption of postal services receded yesterday after progress in pay talks between the 200,000-strong Union of Communications Workers and the Post Office. The union has decided to defer industrial action pending a meeting of the union's executive today.

The Post Office said there had been encouraging progress in talks yesterday afternoon which followed a meeting of UCU leaders in the morning.

Unofficial action in protest at a 4% per cent pay offer and in support of a demand for a 5.2 per cent increase and a shorter working week, has already disrupted services. Along with British Telecom and the National Giro Bank, still faces industrial action from the Post Office Engineering Union.

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Tomorrow

Papal scourge
A Profile of theologian Hans Küng, who questions the doctrine of infallibility

Teaming up...
Western leaders meet for the economic summit under the diplomatic eye of Nicholas Barrington

David Hart compares the leadership of Mrs Thatcher and Ronald Reagan... and in private James Fenton assesses Anthony West's frank book about his parents, H. G. Wells and Rebecca West

Pressure on interest rates eases

Pressure on the banks to raise interest rates eased again after much better than expected money supply figures for May. Sterling M3 rose by about 0.75 per cent, about half as fast as many expected.

Page 17

Anger over RUC prosecution

Mr Alan Wright, chairman of the Police Federation in Northern Ireland has demanded to know why three Royal Ulster Constabulary officers cleared of murdering a Provisional IRA terrorist were brought to trial

Judge's criticism, page 2

But he disowns he had a Cockney grandfather...

REAGAN VISITS LONDON.

Hart grounded

A chartered Boeing 707 carrying Senator Gary Hart, Democratic presidential candidate, and his entourage to Los Angeles made an emergency landing at Philadelphia after an engine caught fire

Last primaries, page 6

Kinnock slips

Public satisfaction with Mr Neil Kinnock as Labour leader has declined. A MORI poll showed 37 per cent satisfied, against 43 per cent in March.

Mother's fund

The mother of one of the Britons missing after the Marquess sinking wants to set up a fund to help young people learn to sail

Inquiry begins, page 6

Short stay

Gordon Jago has been dismissed by Queen's Park Rangers, the first division football club, a week after being appointed as general manager

Page 22

Leader page, 15

Letters: On human embryos, from Dr R G Edwards, FRS, and Mr P C Steptoe, and others; D-Day, from Canon P A Berry, D-Day and Lord Lansdowne; architecture, from Mr S Cantuzino

Leading article: D-Day

Features, pages 10, 11, 14

How the teachers have got it wrong; Khomenni's choice; the lure of sail. Spectrum: Angus McBean; revival of a master photographer. Wednesday Page: on your toes with Makarova Hampshire, pages 12, 13

Forty years ago today, Hampshire was a launch pad for the Allied invasion. A Special Report looks at how the county has developed since then

Obituary, page 16

Sir Frederick Russell, Dr Fuad Mohieddin

Classified, pages 25-30

Appointments, property, personal

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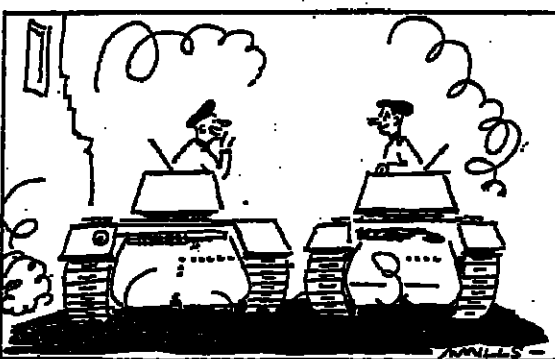
"I suppose you realize you're driving on the wrong side of the road?"



"Frankly, this is ridiculous."



"The ironic part is that it's no change - I used to come here every year."



"If we hurry we should be able to capture it in time for the Nine o'clock News."



"Our position as neutrals is becoming increasingly difficult."



"... In der ole kitbag Und schnell, schnell, schnell..."

D-Day humour: It is easy, Alan Coren says, to read the facts of the event but by seeing the kind of jokes people were making, you get a much better idea of what they were actually feeling. This is why *Punch*, which he edits comes out today with some 30 cartoons first seen in the summer of 1944, a selection of which are shown above. War, Mr Coren adds, has always been fertile ground for cartoonists. The areas of taboo and inhibition have probably changed "you won't find many sexual jokes in the 40-year-old cartoons", he says.

Queen sails to D-Day ceremony

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh set sail from Portsmouth last night in the Royal Yacht Britannia for today's fortieth anniversary celebrations of the D-Day landings in Normandy. Britannia was due to berth at Caen at 7am this morning, after which the Queen will visit the Commonwealth war graves cemetery at Bayeux, Utah Beach, the Canadian cemetery at Bény-sur-Mer and the British Normandy veterans' parade at Arromanches. The Royal couple will fly home from Normandy and are expected back this evening.

Their visit to Portsmouth last night began at HMS Dryad, the shore-based establishment at Havant, where they saw the map room used by General Eisenhower as his headquarters for the landings. They also saw a Royal Navy exhibition of the 1982 San Carlos landings in the Falklands campaign and met officers of HMS Dryad and their wives at a garden party. They were received on the jetty at Portsmouth by the city's Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and embarked on Britannia after two presentations. The yacht set sail at 7pm and was

escorted from the harbour by the Trinity House vessel Patricia. After the Prince of Wales had completed his formal D-Day duties in Ranville, Normandy, yesterday he began a walkabout, first down a row of former senior officers. He asked Brigadier Edwin Slavelle, aged 86, who lives in Eastbourne, Sussex, if he was getting enough calories to drink. He replied: "I have managed to have one or two." The Prince met wheelchair-bound Mr Patrick Nilan, aged 67, from Little Alton, near

Bolton, Lancashire, who served with 8 Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, and lost his right leg in a mortar blast three days after the Allied landing. He joked with Mrs Elisabeth Poole, aged 39, from London, whose father died while her mother, Val, was only four months pregnant. "Prince Charles said I was surely too young to know my father", Mrs Poole, who was with her mother and aunt, said. "I said I was just a twinkle in his eye and Prince Charles replied: 'What a twinkle'."

South coast cities vie for the honours

By Kenneth Gooling

The South Coast cities of Portsmouth and Southampton will be in a fierce battle today and for the rest of the week to mark their part in the preparations of D-Day. Portsmouth today will have a fly-past of Second World War aircraft, a spectacular march-past, a military tattoo, and a concert at the Guildhall in the evening. More than 1,200 service and ex-service personnel will take part in the march-past in

Guildhall Square, where the salute will be taken by Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidy, C-in-C Naval Home Command. The cities have vied with one another in events and celebrities. **EVENTS CALENDAR** Today: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend fortieth anniversary celebrations in Normandy. 2.35 pm: Lay wreath at Bayeux Cemetery. 3.50 pm: Join other heads of state at Utah Beach memorial service. 6.15 pm: Review veterans' march-past, Arromanches. Portsmouth: 10 am: British Legion ceremony at D-Day Stone, Canoe Lake. 12.30 pm: March-past, Guildhall Square, with fly-past. 5.30 pm: Military tattoo, Southsea Castle Field. 7.30 pm: D-Day concert, Guildhall. Bournemouth: 7.45 pm: Concert in Guildhall with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra. The television coverage today will include a number of special features. The BBC will have a direct breakfast time relay from Arromanches. ITN will carry much of its background material on the British and American airborne landings between noon and 1pm.

Leading article, page 15
Letters, page 15

Who was Britain fooling?

It took British Intelligence two years of elaborate planning to divert German attention away from the true site of the D-Day landings 40 years ago today (Kenneth Gooling writes). But were the Germans really deceived? Or, as this newspaper headline from the *Hamburger Tageblatt* of June, 1944, proclaims, were they perfectly clear about the Allies' intentions? The heading screams, **THE INVASION HAS BEGUN!** And in the smaller type it says: "Surprise element fails - artillery duels with battleships - many parachute units destroyed." The report is credited to

DNB by the German news bureau, *Deutsches Nachrichtenbüro*, in which seems to have been in no doubt that this was indeed the real thing whereas historians have said that Hitler and certainly some of his generals thought it merely a diversionary attack, as the Allies wanted them to believe. **THE ENEMY BEGINS ITS BLOODY SACRIFICE,** a sub-heading reads. Below the report says the attack: "no often announced", had begun. Earlier, the report says: "Nowhere was the defence taken by surprise. So was it a surprise, or was this reaction carefully prepared to boost morale at home?"

These changes make it harder to match expectations to today's reality. This was particularly evident over Grenada, which is still a cause of considerable bitterness among British ministers. The United States Administration was deliberately secretive about the operation until the evening before the invasion, after Sir Geoffrey Howe had told the House of Commons that he had no reason to think that American military intervention was likely. There was almost certainly an element of calculated deception, but the British Government made that deception easier because it assumed that the terms of the special relationship required the United States to consult Britain before making a decision. It therefore accepted assurances at too low a level. This assumption was based, however, upon a misleading not only of what the relationship is today but also of what it has been for a good many years. Anglo-American consultation at the time of the Cuban crisis in 1962 is generally regarded as having been exceptionally close. But it began only after the critical decision had been taken to impose a blockade, rather than to make an air strike or launch an invasion, following five days of intensive argument among the special group of advisers whom President Kennedy assembled to consider the American response. Britain no longer has the power to be treated as an equal whose agreement has to be secured in times of crisis. Yet it is an equally serious mistake to go to the other extreme and conclude that Britain, therefore, has no influence these days in the United States.

Deception over invasion

power station was being unloaded. In South Yorkshire six pits are threatened by a revised strategy by the British Steel Corporation's Scunthorpe works, which has been drawn up because of the miners' strike. Even before the strike began the BSC in Scunthorpe was carrying out tests with Polish coal to see if it was suitable for use at the works. A 28m order for three new British-built coal carrying ships has been placed by the C&GB to Thameside power stations. The ships are to be built by Govan Shipbuilders on the Clyde. **Parliament, page 4**

Hamburger Tageblatt

ZEITUNG DER NATIONALSOZIALISTISCHEN DEUTSCHEN ARBEITER

Die Invasion hat begonnen!

Überraschungsmoment mitlungen - Artilleriekämpfe mit Schlachtschiffen - Viele Fallschirmjäger auf dem Boden

Judge praises police who shot terrorists

From Richard Ford, Belfast
The Director of Public Prosecutions was criticized by a judge in Belfast yesterday in a controversial judgment during which he praised the courage of three police officers whom he had earlier acquitted of murdering a Provisional IRA terrorist. Lord Justice Gibson also attacked the original presentation of the Crown case, saying that at a preliminary hearing the magistrate had been left with a false picture of the circumstances of the shooting in which three terrorists died. He told Belfast Crown Court that the prosecution of three

Royal Ulster Constabulary officers had been brought on tenuous evidence. "There never was the slightest chance that the Crown could have hoped to secure a conviction", he said. On Monday Lord Justice Gibson had acquitted a sergeant and two constables of murdering Eugene Toman at Lurgan, co Armagh, 18 months ago. Sgt William Montgomery, aged 28, and constables, Mr David Brannigan, aged 35, and Mr Frederick Robinson, aged 26, had been accused of murdering Toman, who died with fellow Provisional IRA

men Sean Burns and Gervais McKerr when the police fired on their car. The car had crashed through a police roadblock and was pursued. It was hit by at least 100 gunshot fired by the three officers. Toman Burns had been wanted for questioning about a land-mine explosion which had killed three officers. The judge said that having heard the Crown case, he regarded each of the accused as "absolutely blameless". He commended them "for their courage and determination in bringing the three deceased

men to justice, in this case to the final court of justice". Lord Justice Gibson said that although it was not his role to investigate the motive or intention of those bringing the prosecution, there was an additional personal security risk to the men now their identities had been made public. There were wider implications, too, for the police and Army. He asked: "When a policeman or soldier is ordered to arrest a dangerous criminal and, on the basis of his order, to bring him back dead or alive, how is he to consider his conduct now?"

Teachers' pay scale talks fail

By Colin Hughes

Hopes of restructuring the salaries of 440,000 teachers next year faded yesterday when unions and employers failed to reach agreement after three days of private talks in Plymouth. The negotiations are, in theory, separate from the dispute over this year's pay rise, but the promise of restructuring has been held out by employers as the best way of achieving the teachers' long-term aim of restoring pay to levels enjoyed by other professionals. Unions and employers have reached broad agreement over ending the present structure of five scales. Within each scale teachers are paid on a complex points system, depending on qualifications, size and type of school, experience and duties. The system proposed would replace it with two grades for classroom teachers. A three-year entry grade for new recruits would be followed by an assessment on whether they should graduate to main professional grade. But teachers' unions refused to accept any proposals until management said what salaries they thought the professional grade should receive. Three-day selective strikes by the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, continued in eight local authorities. Selective strikes by the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, continued in eight local authorities.

Damage could close pit in a week

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Barony Colliery in Scotland could be closed within seven days unless the National Union of Mineworkers allow its members to repair damaged roadways and coal faces, the National Coalboard said yesterday. Mr Bert Wheeler, Scottish Area Director of the National Coal Board, said after meeting community leaders that the pit which employs 650 men in Ayrshire could close because of deterioration in conditions. His statement came as 11 people were remanded in custody after clashes between pickets and police at Ramsgate harbour in Kent. Fighting broke out as oil for Richborough

power station was being unloaded. In South Yorkshire six pits are threatened by a revised strategy by the British Steel Corporation's Scunthorpe works, which has been drawn up because of the miners' strike. Even before the strike began the BSC in Scunthorpe was carrying out tests with Polish coal to see if it was suitable for use at the works. A 28m order for three new British-built coal carrying ships has been placed by the C&GB to Thameside power stations. The ships are to be built by Govan Shipbuilders on the Clyde. **Parliament, page 4**

Electricity potential of old water power sites

By David Nicholson-Lord

Electricity generation using water power could be increased fourfold in England if old or neglected sites were used by farmers and landowners for small-scale hydroelectric plants, it was claimed at a meeting of the Watt Committee on Energy yesterday. The committee, an independent body representing 65 professional organizations, is publishing later this year a report on small-scale hydro power. The estimate of potential resources was given to its meeting by Professor Eric Wilson, professor of hydraulic engineering at Salford University and a leading expert in the field. In the UK as a whole there were about 500 sites which could provide a power output of as little as five kilowatts and still make a profit. The electricity could be used privately or sold to the national grid. Existing hydroelectric power generation in England was 20 million units a year. But small plants on new sites could provide an extra 160 million units, 75 million of which would be classed as economically viable, Professor Wilson said.

£105,840 for candlesticks

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Koopman and Armitage, the two silver dealers who have been making a point of buying all the best silver that comes on the market, swooped on St Oysth Priory in Essex yesterday and spent £105,840 (estimate £40,000 to £60,000) at Christie's sale of the contents. They acquired a set of four handsome candlesticks made by George Wicks in 1733, each of which can be converted into a candelabra.

Mr Jacques Koopman said that he did not consider the price particularly high; he had been prepared to give almost double. Mr Koopman had helped to form the superb silver collection of Mr Muhammad Mahdi Al Tajir, the London ambassador of the United Arab Emirates and one of the world's richest men. His most important purchases generally find their way to this collection.

Conservation clash over 'glass giant'

By Ngalo Cresquer

A public inquiry was told yesterday that the Prince of Wales should be brought in to object to a proposed 21-storey office block near the City of London Mansion House, as he has called it "a giant glass stump better suited to downtown Chicago". Mr Murphy said the proposal would negate the City's policy for preservation and conservation in this unique area. He predicted: "It would become increasingly difficult to prevent a spread of high

buildings closer to St Paul's Cathedral". Mr Peter Boydell, for the developers, said: "Isn't it virtually unprecedented to find such a galaxy of stars' names from the world of architecture to press this scheme so vehemently?" Mr Murphy replied: "The world galaxy usually refers to the stars, which are usually a long way away from the scheme."

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Geoffrey Smith

The D-Day celebrations commemorate the high point of the Anglo-American special relationship. This was the last time that a great enterprise was founded upon collaboration between our two countries. We remain allies, and partners, but no longer so exclusively. Nato could not be described, like the Normandy landings, as an essentially Anglo-American operation which others have joined. The change is partly desirable and certainly inevitable. It is desirable that other countries in western Europe should be playing such a large part in Nato. The West would be weaker if it had to depend upon the joint activity of Britain and the United States. It is also inevitable that the world has moved on. The United States not only has important European allies apart from Britain. It also has great and growing interests in other areas of the world apart from Europe. Central and Latin American claim more attention than ever before. The Middle East is a cause of perpetual anxiety. The Pacific is seen as the region of economic opportunity. Britain, for its part, has developed new ties in the European Community.

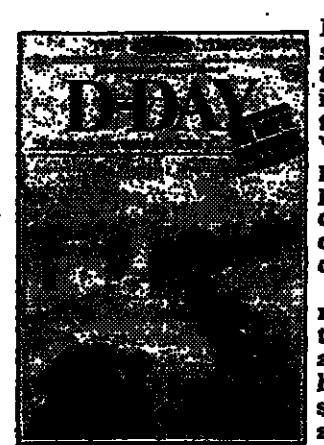
This diversification of interests abroad has been accompanied by a transfer of influence at home. In both countries power has largely passed from the generation which experienced the intimacy of shared danger in the wartime alliance. In the United States, it has also moved west and south, away from the Atlantic seaboard establishment many of whom were closer to Britain than to their own west coast in their intellectual background and international perspective.

Deception over invasion

power station was being unloaded. In South Yorkshire six pits are threatened by a revised strategy by the British Steel Corporation's Scunthorpe works, which has been drawn up because of the miners' strike. Even before the strike began the BSC in Scunthorpe was carrying out tests with Polish coal to see if it was suitable for use at the works. A 28m order for three new British-built coal carrying ships has been placed by the C&GB to Thameside power stations. The ships are to be built by Govan Shipbuilders on the Clyde. **Parliament, page 4**

D-Day Times now on sale

A special reprinted edition of *The Times* commemorating the D-Day landings officially is now on sale. The reproduction of the 10-page paper of June 7, 1944, contains the first news of the assault by the Allied armada on the beaches of Normandy. The newspaper reports that the British, United States and Canadian armies had advanced several miles inland "after the greatest operation of its kind in history" and carries dispatches from correspondents on land and with the Royal Air Force pounding coastal defences.



The newspaper is full of the tragedy of the years of war, with lengthy lists of airmen killed in action. Alongside them the luckier ones announce their forthcoming marriages, including an American with his war bride. The late London edition of *The Times* of June 7, 1944, is on sale at 75p, contained within a four-page wrap-around comprising photographs with assessments of the invasion by Brigadier Peter Young, a young Lieutenant Colonel at Normandy 40 years ago, and by Rear-Admiral Edward Guertiz, a beachmaster on Sword beach. The paper is also available direct from Dept D-Day, 20/22 Bedfordbury, Covent Garden, London, WC2. 21 (Inc p & p).

Power disparity is too great

There remains a warmth of sentiment in both countries towards the other. One might doubt that sometimes if one judged by the state of anti-American criticism that is now fashionable in Britain. But a poll conducted by Gallup a couple of months ago showed that America is still far more widely regarded than any other country as Britain's best friend, being chosen by 36 per cent, compared with 9 per cent for its nearest rival, West Germany. In the United States these days to be British is a social asset. This friendship continues to offer Britain exceptional opportunities for quiet persuasion. But the disparity in power has become so great that we shall not again enjoy the diplomatic clout with the United States that we possessed 40 years ago. In more ways than one D-Day will not dawn again.

Early-evening ratings war likely if BBC replaces 'Sixty Minutes'

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

An early-evening ratings battle will be signalled by the BBC this week with the announcement of the fate of its *Sixty Minutes* programme, which took over from *Nation* last autumn.

Journalists on *Sixty Minutes* believe that the corporation is about to kill it completely or replace it with a shorter news and current affairs section, making way for more popular light entertainment beginning at about 6.20pm. A chat show hosted by Terry Wogan and a

BBC advertising denial

The spectre of privatization crossed the BBC again yesterday with a report that ministers were pressing for Radio 1 and 2 to carry advertisements.

But the BBC said it was unaware of such proposals and would not comment until they were made public.

The Home Office, which instigates broadcasting policy, said: "We have no plans to change the licence fee system, the structure of the BBC, or introduce advertising."

However, political circles confirmed that the idea of advertising on Radio 1 and 2 had influential supporters in the Government, although it was agreed that it was politically

unacceptable to introduce commercials on BBC television.

The case for privatization was put in a report from the Adam Smith Institute this year. "The time has come to change the BBC from a monolithic corporation, constantly lacking resources, to an association of independent and separately financed stations, operating under the BBC board of governors."

TV editor stays

● TV-am's editor, Mr Clive Jones, who was this week thought to be on the verge of resigning, told staff yesterday that he was staying.

night, the commercial stations would immediately seek permission from the Independent Broadcasting Authority to match the BBC move if it started to win viewers.

Programme schedulers on both sides believe that the channel which can win the most viewers during the early evening is more likely to hold on to them for later programmes.

The BBC said yesterday that predictions that *Sixty Minutes* would end, possibly by the end of July, were "purely speculative", but those working on the programme believe that a decision about its future is imminent.

Mr Michael Grade, whose appointment as the new controller of BBC1 was announced last week, is believed to have been involved in discussions for some weeks about changing the channel's format.

The BBC has dropped its weekend chat show, *Saturday Night Affair*, after only two showings. The show, which was in the form of a party hosted by a different celebrity each week, was condemned by television critics and performed badly in the ratings.

Its place will be taken on Saturday by showing the late film earlier than originally scheduled.



A member of the Indian High Commission peering past police protectors yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

Indian High Commission attacked by Sikhs

By Stewart Tessler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard yesterday increased protection for India House, the Indian High Commission's offices in Aldwych, central London, after Sikh protesters attacked the building. Windows were smashed and a firebomb was thrown into the building.

Three of the staff were treated for cuts and bruises after the attack.

Mr David Sutherland, doorman at the Waldorf Hotel opposite, said that one policeman was on duty at the main door of India House when a group of Sikhs appeared.

He said that the men used chains to smash windows at the side of the building and then started breaking the plate glass windows at the front. An incendiary device was thrown and the curtains at one window caught fire.

Later a group of Sikhs told journalists that the attack had been part of a protest against the Indian government's actions in Punjab.

One man said: "They are representatives of the government of India. Until they stop killing Sikhs we will go on doing this."

A demonstration was held outside India House two weeks ago.

● The Foreign Office said last night that it deeply regretted the incident (our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

The Indian High Commission had asked on the previous day for more protection for its diplomatic premises, and this request was passed on to the police, the Foreign Office said.

● Leaders of Britain's Sikh community, the largest outside India, are planning a demonstration in London, possibly on Sunday, in support of Sikhs fighting government forces in Punjab.

Fighting at shrine, page 6

Video prices for dealers reduced

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

One of the largest video distributors has reduced its prices to dealers in what it says is an attempt to halt an increasing number of collapses in the video retail business.

CIC Video plans to cut the dealer price of more than 100 new films, which include titles such as *Jaws 3*, *Footloose* and *Terms of Endearment*, from the present level of more than £30 to £24.50.

The company believes that the price cut is unlikely to be passed on to the customer but will be used to enable struggling retailers to remain in business. It said yesterday that it was concerned about dealers who are trading unprofitably.

Mr Laurie Hall, CIC's managing director, said: "Prices for films of over £35 are simply no longer justifiable."

"The dealer finds it difficult enough to make a penny or two on the best films sold at this price level, but when one considers the mass of really inferior titles sold at over £30 it is not surprising that the dealer is losing money."

"On top titles at high prices the dealer struggles to recover his investment and even then really does not make profits. In any event he can never afford to buy very many copies of these titles and therefore can never properly reap the rewards."

CIC experimented with low dealer prices last year when it released *Raiders of the Lost Ark* at a dealer price of £13.50.

Translation by computer service

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Microcomputer owners will be able to send messages electronically and have them translated into a European language by a service launched yesterday by Cable & Wireless.

The scheme, called Easylink, will operate through the telephone lines of British Telecom and is a joint venture with the American telecommunications group, Western Union, which runs the system in the United States.

Cable & Wireless is to invest £5m over three years for its 75 per cent stake.

The system initially will go into service in the greater London area this month and will gradually be extended nationally. Translations will be offered in French and German.

Bomb inquiry moves to Spain

By John Withersow

A man wanted for questioning about the murder of a Kent housewife who died after a parcel bomb exploded at her home is believed to have fled to Spain.

Kent police, who described the man as dangerous, said they had alerted Interpol to help in the search for the killer of Mrs Barbara Harrold, who died from injuries a week after a tube

packed with nails exploded in her hands at Ighiteam, near Sevenoaks, on May 21.

The man, who is in his 50s, was seen at Bearsted post office on the outskirts of Maidstone where the bomb was posted three days before the explosion.

The motive for the bombing is still uncertain.

The development in the murder hunt occurred during

the weekend when police searched a house near Maidstone where the man had been staying. They found equipment thought to have been used by the bomber.

The police are withholding the man's name for operational reasons but said that "he is known to be an Englishman who is in possession of a Spanish-registered car"

£800 fines for wrong bra labels

Lingerie manufacturers Berlei were yesterday fined £800 after admitting a number of trades description offences.

Magistrates in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, were told that the Slough based company sold bras which were labelled "cotton for comfort", "soft cup cotton", and "100 per cent cotton".

But Warwickshire Trading Standards Department said that tests on six bras bought from stores and from a mail order catalogue all contained less than 20 per cent cotton.

Mr Paul Waterworth, for Berlei, blamed the errors on "over-enthusiastic marketing workers".

Berlei admitted six charges of false description and were fined £800 and ordered to pay £400 costs.

Union condemns use of weedkiller

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government's refusal to ban the use of herbicides containing the dioxin-based chemical 245-T, was criticized in a report yesterday by the agricultural workers' branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The report lists 27 cases of death, cancer, birth deformities, miscarriages and skin diseases among employees and their families who have been in contact with 245-T.

It draws analogies with Agent Orange used to defoliate jungles in the Vietnam War, and the agreement by United States chemical companies to pay \$180m to veterans.

The report says that the use of 245-T is banned in some European countries, and more than a hundred British local

authorities and employers, including British Rail and the National Coal Board, are committed to using other weedkillers.

Since an accident at a Coalite plant in Derbyshire in 1968 and the explosion at Seveso, Italy, in 1976, the manufacture of 245-T has been largely discontinued.

However, Mr Chris Kaufman, one of the report's co-authors, said huge stocks remained in Britain and other countries. It was widely used in agrochemicals and weedkillers sold for domestic garden use.

Mr Chris Major, director of the British Agrochemicals Association, said it was unfair to compare dioxin in weedkillers with Agent Orange, in which concentrations were up to 4,500 times as strong.

Choir girls ban forces resignation

A cathedral choirmaster has resigned after 25 years over a plan to ban girls from his choir.

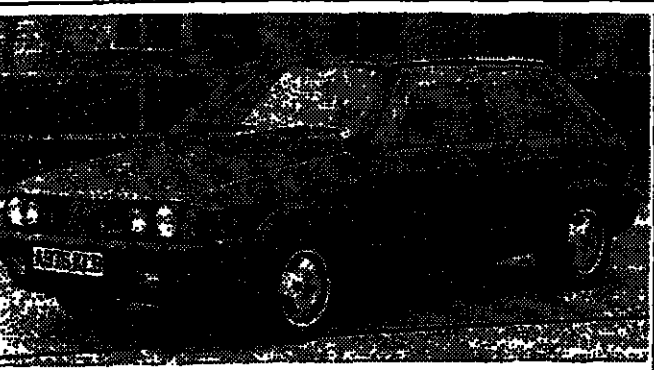
Mr Harrison Oxley, choir-master and organist at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, told church leaders he had "no alternative" but to resign.

The cathedral choir girls have been told they may be able to join a "second division" choir to be called the St Edmundsbury Singers. But Mr Oxley, who has worked at the cathedral since 1958, said the girls should be given equal opportunity with boys to sing in the main choir.

Canon Geoffrey Tarris, Cathedral presenter, yesterday denied that the plan to phase out girl choristers was "sexist".

"We believe there is a basic difference between girls' and boys' voices, and it has nothing to do with equal opportunities or whether girls can sing as well as boys," he said.

St Edmundsbury has 21 girl choristers, aged between 11 and 18 and 21 boys, and is the only cathedral in England that still has girls in the choir.



Strada Abarth: Competitor for Golf GTI

Fiat's fast challenger

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The fastest Fiat to be sold in Britain was launched yesterday to lead the Italian group's fight to reverse years of falling sales.

The two-litre Strada Abarth 130TC is to compete with the Volkswagen Golf GTI, long-established high performance sports hatchback.

Both cars have a maximum speed of about 118 mph, but the new Fiat engine tuned by Abarth, its widely-respected competition cars subsidiary, enables it to accelerate to 60mph in fewer than eight seconds, compared with the Golf's 8.7 seconds.

That puts it in the same class as many sports cars with twice its power, giving it an edge in the fast-growing sports hatchback sector.

The British market increased from 20,000 in 1982, to 44,000 last year.

Fiat Abarths are so popular in Europe that production does not meet demand. However, Fiat UK's need for an image booster has persuaded Turin to divert Abarths.

The Abarth 130 TC costs £7,900 - £67 less than the Golf GTI. But £1,023 more than the Ford Escort XR3i.

Fixed-price tickets for Royal Opera

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House announced yesterday a new fixed-price ticket scheme which, it claims, will make Covent Garden one of the least expensive leading opera houses in the West.

The scheme, which will be introduced as an experiment at the opening of the new season in September, will fix the most expensive tickets at £34 compared with the present maximum of £49.50. But 40 per cent of the opera's seats will cost £10 or less.

The company is maintaining its income by upgrading a number of middle-price seats into the top-class category. The £34 maximum will apply to 764 seats instead of the present 138 at the top rate.

The new policy rationalizes the complicated six-price schedule where admission varied from performance to

performance, and the maximum price could range from £19 to £49.50.

"The previous system was difficult for the general public to understand, complicated to administer and put some of the Royal Opera's performances out of reach of the regular operagoer," the company said yesterday.

If the present ticket scheme were to continue, a maximum price of £52 would have been introduced within months for some performances, the company added.

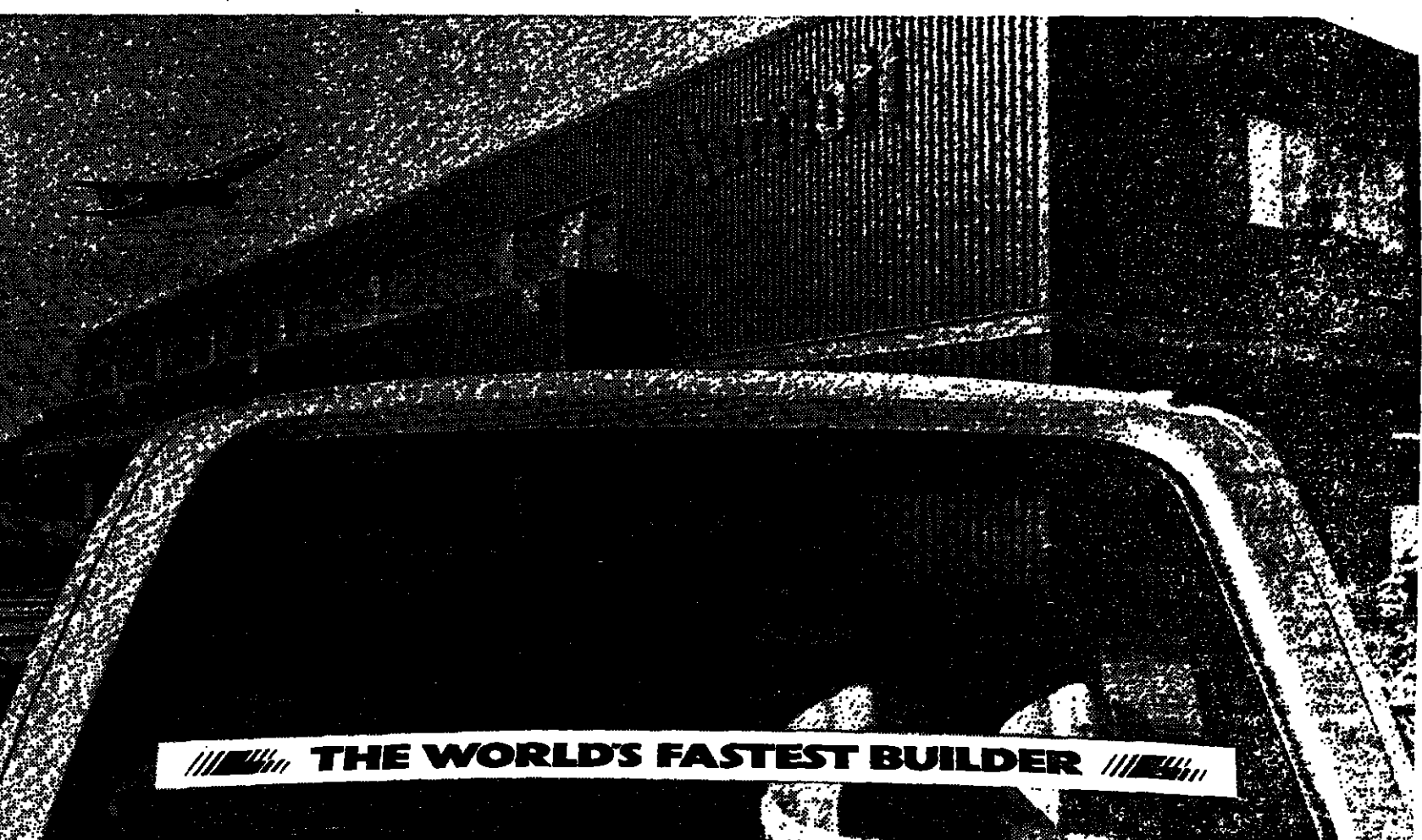
The variable-price system at Covent Garden has been criticized in the past for the way it introduced premium tickets for world-class performances.

The high prices can also lead to unrealistic expectations, as the company discovered at the weekend when its expensive

production of *Aida*, featuring Luciano Pavarotti, proved less successful than expected and was greeted by a level of booing rarely seen outside Italy.

The Opera House yesterday announced eight new productions during the 1984-85 season yesterday: *Tannhäuser*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Manon*, *Samson*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *La Donna del Lago*, and *Turandot*. Revivals will include *Tosca*, *Don Pasquale*, *Carmen*, *Boris Godunov*, *Don Giovanni*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Die Zaire*, *Capriccio*, *King Lear*, *Andrea Chénier*, *Samson et Dalila*, *Le Bohème*, *Così fan tutte*, and *Macbeth*.

The season opens on September 1 with the London premiere of *Turandot* which inaugurates the 1984 Olympic Arts Festival in Los Angeles



Poetic licence, or another endorsement for Lovell's Law?

British contractors have been called many things but "the world's fastest builders" hasn't often been one of them.

So when an international catering specialist awarded this citation to a British builder of a major kitchen complex capable of producing up to 20,000 meals a day, one might be expected to take such praise with a pinch of salt!

But let's examine the facts. Lovell Construction began work for Marriott In-Flite Services in the middle of a wet winter. The site was Manchester International Airport and the project, with a high services content, demanded working to tight tolerances.

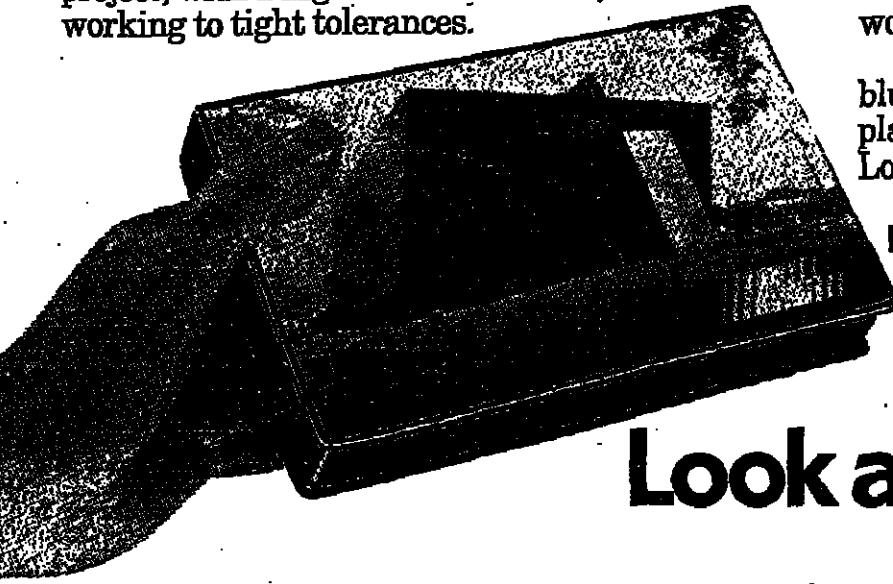
Site conditions weren't good. A low lying, badly drained location meant pumps had to operate continuously up to the moment that the concrete was poured.

Anyway, to cut a short story even shorter, Lovell handed over the high-quality building five full weeks ahead of an already ultra-tight schedule and 20 weeks from the start.

At the official opening of the complex, Marriott's American Vice-President announced that Lovell had brought the Manchester operation on stream faster than any other Marriott unit anywhere - and the company has 140 of them worldwide!

So what can we add, except perhaps a little blush of pride and a gentle reminder to anyone planning their own built-up area that, under Lovell's Law, there are simply no speed limits!

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Look at Lovell

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Comprehensive and candid talks with Botha

SOUTH AFRICA

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, told the Commons during stormy exchanges about her meeting with Mr P. W. Botha, Prime Minister of South Africa, at the weekend that her decision to invite him to Britain and to talk to him had been right. Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said that the visit had given enormous satisfaction to the South African Government and the friends of apartheid.

During Mr Kinnock's long question following Mrs Thatcher's statement, Conservative protests increased in volume and eventually many backbench Conservative MPs walked out of the Chamber.

In her statement, Mrs Thatcher said there had been discussions for more than five hours. The meeting had been a working one and discussions had been comprehensive and candid, covering the problems of southern Africa as a whole, including Namibia. There had been considerable discussion of the internal situation in South Africa.

She made clear to Mr Botha (she said) our desire to see peaceful solutions to all the region's problems.

On Namibia, we agreed that early independence was desirable and should be achieved as soon as possible under peaceful conditions.

We also agreed that all foreign forces should be withdrawn from the country in the southern Africa so that their peoples can settle their destinies without outside interference. The withdrawal of South African forces from Angola is an important first step in this process.

On the internal situation in South Africa, I expressed our strongly-held views on apartheid. I told Mr Botha of my particular concern at the practice of forcing white people to raise the question of the continued detention of Mr Nelson Mandela.

Mr Botha gave me an account of his Government's recent constitutional measures and the appointment of a Cabinet Committee to make proposals for the political future of the black population outside the homelands.

I believe that the South African Prime Minister now understands much more clearly where HM Government stands on all the major issues.

My talks with Mr Botha are part of the process through which we and other western and African countries must continue to press for the sort of changes we all want to see in southern Africa.

Mr Kinnock: The invitation to and reception of Mr Botha has given enormous satisfaction to the South African Government and to friends of apartheid. It has also given offence to millions of people in Britain (Conservative protest) - and throughout the Commonwealth and indeed in many other parts of the world.

Reports of her meeting with Prime Minister Botha that have been published and broadcast in South Africa differ radically from the reports provided in Britain as to be an insult to her and the spokespersons who gave the reports on her behalf, especially since I recognize and so do other Labour



Steel: Was she surprised at the propaganda?

Mrs Thatcher: I know Dr Owen visited South Africa when he was Labour's Foreign Secretary and had conversations with Mr Botha. I believe the independence of Namibia must come within the terms of UN Resolution 435.

There is nothing new to report on Mr Mandela.

On the constitutional changes, one has to recognize that there have been more changes in the lifetime of the present South African Government than during its predecessors.

A Cabinet committee has been set up to look at the constitutional future outside the homelands.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): Will Mrs Thatcher consider asking Mr Chernenko for a conversation and, if he comes, will she ask how Dr Sakharov is getting on?

Mrs Thatcher: Not yet, Sir Geoffrey Howe is going to Moscow to see Mr Gromyko in July.

Dr Sakharov is in need of medical treatment and we are doing all we can to help him. We have no human rights as we know them.

Mr David Wainwright (Walsall North, Lab): The reason South Africa is different from other dictatorships is that it is the only system where people are discriminated against from birth onwards simply because of the colour of their skin.

Mrs Thatcher: There are many, many people in South Africa working for a system that does not discriminate against people because of the colour of their skin.

I am the first to say that discrimination based on the colour of the skin is utterly and totally wrong.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, SNP): What did you say to the Government receive for the enormous benefit that accrued from the Botha visit?

There is ample evidence that the armed forces of South Africa are amply sustained through the activities of the British and Israeli.

Mrs Thatcher: We have honoured the United Nations arms embargo against South Africa. We shall continue to do so. No request for arms was made. I hope he will not continue to make that accusation against the British Government.

Mr Tony Benn (Cheshire East, Lab): Did she specifically raise with Mr Botha the well-documented examples of activities by the South African security services from their embassy in London? Have all the links between the British and South African security services been broken and has she given instructions that the British security services are to prevent a repetition of what has happened in the past?

Mrs Thatcher: We do not discuss security matters in the House. We have frequently made clear to the South African Government that our embassy is for diplomatic purposes only. They are well aware of that and particularly so since the Libyan episode.

Mr Steel: Was Mrs Thatcher surprised at the propaganda for South Africa on Mr Botha's visit, or was it expected?

Does she expect the United Nations timetable to be kept to? Was any progress made on the debate of Nelson Mandela?

With reference to the black population, is she following in the line of setting up these puppet black states within the territory of South Africa?

full consultations and in the light of all the circumstances.

I am advised that in this case the precedent was broken.

On the question of dual control, Mrs Thatcher said there was agreement in the light of the deployment of cruise missiles that no missile could be fired from the ship without the approval of the British Prime Minister.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) said there was growing concern that American ships carrying sea-based cruise missiles would soon be using British ports.

The concern was based partly on the fact that such weapons were beyond verification and therefore represented a major escalation in the arms race.

What assurance could the Prime Minister give that the House and the country would be given their chance to say whether ships carrying these weapons would be allowed to call at British ports?

Mrs Thatcher: We do belong to the Western alliance and there is nothing unusual in ships carrying nuclear weapons calling at our ports.

Mr Kinnock asked whether the Prime Minister did not understand

or was trying deliberately to evade the point. It was 4½ years since she said at the Dublin summit that she was not going to play Sister Bounifant or the Community, that it was our money and that a permanent and just settlement must be secured.

It was feasible to extending the deadline for the third time in a year, relying entirely on German faith and German honour, both of which he fully respected.

Is this (he asked) what she means about a strong voice in Europe?

Mrs Thatcher: A strong voice in Europe has already obtained refunds to this country of £200m. (Conservative cheer)

Mr Kinnock said the Prime Minister was evading the fact that she had made a net contribution of £200m.

By comparison (he added) the rebate is starting to look a little slim.

Mrs Thatcher asked why the Labour Government had not renegotiated Mr Kinnock could not get over the fact that this Conservative Government had obtained £200m for Britain. He wanted to withdraw from Europe and lose two million jobs in doing so.

Mr Kinnock asked whether the Prime Minister did not understand

regularly - the "readers" as they are known - the individual cost of the closure was sometimes very high.

Mrs Mary Pain, of Chelsea, is a pensioner who has put her experience in cipher work at Bletchley Park to good use earning a little extra income as a research agent. Although she believes "there are not enough hours in a day to make a living" at such painstaking work, she said she had suffered terribly without the extra cash

and now had only two weeks remaining in which to do six weeks' planned work.

The building at Kew, designed by the Property Services Agency and completed in 1977, is the most modern of the Public Record Office's London repositories; the others are at Chancery Lane, Portland Street, and Hayes.

The Health and Safety Executive said last week that it now considered the building safe.

Another research agent, Mrs Judith Farrington, of Chiswick, said that about 20 such workers used Kew regularly. Most were married or had other sources of income; few, if any, made a living entirely from research.

Mr John Bumsford, of Winnipeg, Canada, was typical of those who had been hardest hit by the closure of the Public Record Office. He had come to London to research a book on British immigration to Canada, but had been caught by surprise

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Money poured into mines

COAL DISPUTE

There was total condemnation of violence and intimidation in the mining dispute, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questioning. She added that she understood this condemnation was echoed at least in certain parts of the Opposition.

Mr Edward Leyden (Liverpool, Lab) said that in view of the Prime Minister's scathing remarks about miners and picketing, the reasons for all this lay clearly at the door of the Government which was responsible for stopping 4 million people from going to work.

Mrs Thatcher said that the miners had been offered pay increases higher than those already accepted by power, gas and water workers, giving them 25 per cent above the average industrial wage. In addition, the Government had £2m a day into the mines so that the miners could have safer, and more productive pits.

There had been no compulsory redundancies and the payments provided on voluntary redundancy were the best ever.

The Government had seen to it that the coal industry was not converted from oil to coal for energy had subsidies, and they were responding well until the strike came along.

That is why the strike is losing jobs, not creating them (she said). Mr Michael Fallos (Dartford, C) said Tyne County Council was to give £100,000 to striking miners and their families. His own county council, Durham, was giving another £25,000.

It is outrageous (he said) that my constituents, who are already subsidizing miners in high cost pits through their taxes, should have to support through the rates miners who are idle of their own accord.

Mrs Thatcher said she agreed. Councils had no money of their own. All they did have was money taken from ratepayers. The National Coal Board was subsidizing the NUM and all those working in the mining industry to the extent of £130 a person per year.

Mr David Wainwright, Minister of State, Home Office, moving the new clause which he said covered points on which all parties had agreed during the Committee stage, said school examination bodies faced the greatest problems because they had to work to a tight timetable in order to produce results by the middle of the summer required to enable decisions to be taken on which students were to be accepted for higher education and also needed by prospective employers. Examining bodies worked at full stretch for perhaps two or three months in order to announce results by the end of August.

Marks were put on to a computer and moderated in various ways according to the standards applied in the examination. The process could be disrupted by requests for data and the announcement of

marks delayed to the disadvantage of all concerned. The new clause therefore specified that access would not be

afforded until five months from the beginning of the examination period, which might be as early as April, or the end of 40 days after the announcement of results, whichever was earlier.

Mr Denis Howell, Opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, said school examinations had been made which improved the Bill considerably.

Howell: Government have got it about right

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Speaker rules "fascist" to be unparliamentary term

PROCEDURE

"Fascist" was an unparliamentary term and should not be applied to any MP, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) ruled in the Commons after heated exchanges following the Prime Minister's statement on Mr P. W. Botha's visit to Britain.

Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab) admitted he had called Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton North, C) a fascist and requested it, adding that Mr Marlow was an authoritarian and an anti-semite. He repeatedly refused to withdraw it, saying his conscience would not allow him to do so and that he had said the same to Mr Marlow personally.

The Speaker urged the House to dispose of the matter in a civilized manner. The word "fascist" had a particular connotation in British history and had a reverberation back to an anniversary being celebrated tomorrow (Wednesday).

Eventually Dr Miller agreed to withdraw his remarks on an earlier occasion and no request for that to be withdrawn had been made.

Mr Harry Ewing (Falkirk East, Lab) said the Speaker recently chose to examine the records of an incident several days after it had taken place. Mr Norman Atkinson (Tottenham, Lab) had on that occasion been asked to withdraw a remark he made about the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Norman Tebbit) and a similar examination of the records should be made by the Speaker in this case before he made a final ruling.

The Speaker said complaints must be raised at the relevant time and the House could not possibly go back to the record weeks or months later.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said the word "fascist" was used with passion and sincerity but it was a matter of perception and philosophy. He asked the Speaker to pause for reflection before making a final ruling.

The Speaker said that in relation to the discussions in the House today everybody knew exactly what the phrase was intended to mean. Nobody should impugn discolour to another MP and, in using that word today, that was what was intended. He said the word "fascist" was unparliamentary and hoped MPs would not use it in the House.

Ms Clare Short (Birmingham, Lab) said the Speaker

should reconsider his ruling as there were openly fascist parties fighting elections to Parliament and it could therefore not be unparliamentary to use the term in the House.

The Speaker said it was true there were fascist parties in elections but they had not been elected to the House.

The dispute had begun during Mr Kinnock's long question following the Prime Minister's statement on her talks with Mr P. W. Botha. At the end of that question during which there had been much shouting across the Chamber, Mr Sheela Tarkenton (Cardiff West, C) said that Mr Gerald Kaufman (Manchester, Gorton, Lab) had called him a fascist.

I expect him to apologize and withdraw (he said).

Mr Kaufman said he was not sure who Mr Tarkenton was, but Conservative MPs had been heckling Mr Kinnock on racialist grounds.

At the request of the Speaker Mr Kaufman withdrew the word fascist but not the word racialist.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Agricultural Holdings Bill, remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Debate on successor to Lomé Convention. Video Recordings Bill, report. Debate on the Lebanon.

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Ridley aims for fares war on European air routes

By Our Political Staff

The Government is trying to start a price war between airlines in Europe, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, told a European election press conference at Conservative Central Office in London yesterday.

Looking extremely pleased about the prospect, Mr Ridley assured reporters that the media had misinterpreted the recent hitch in negotiations with the Dutch Government over cheap air fares from London to Amsterdam.

There had been no failure, no retraction by the Dutch. The plan for British Airways and KLM to reduce the club class return fare to Amsterdam from £149 to 49 was going ahead he said. "Indeed, Virgin Atlantic have even offered a £20 fare", he added.

That was confirmed by Virgin Atlantic, which opens its £99 single service from London to Newark, New Jersey, on June 22.

Virgin said that, subject to government approval, the airline would extend the New York service to Maastricht, Holland. A £20 single fare would be offered from London to Maastricht.

Explaining what he called a minor setback in the bilateral negotiations with the Dutch Government, Mr Ridley said that British Caledonian had followed up the BA and KLM decision with the offer of a £49 return fare to Holland under "more liberal conditions" for passengers.

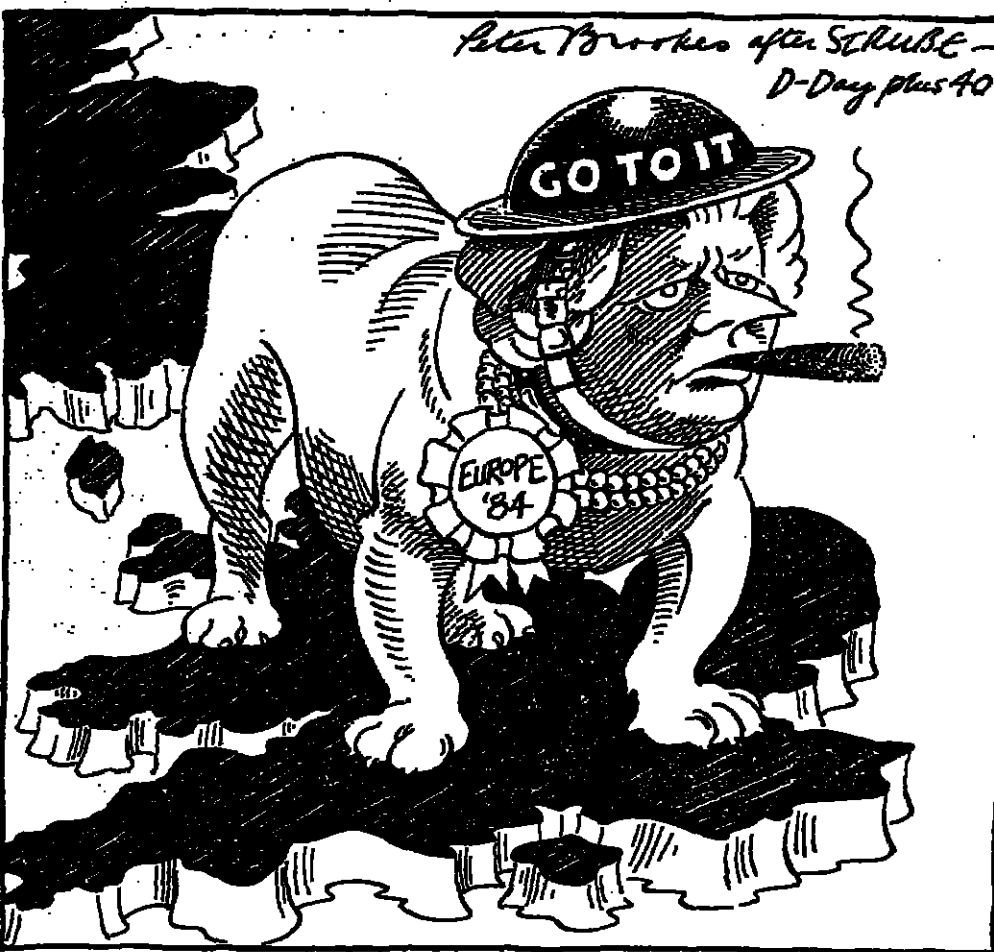
The Dutch Government had asked that these conditions, which concerned booking arrangements and the length of stay in Holland, should be brought into line with the arrangements agreed between BA and KLM.

Mr Ridley said he had started new negotiations with the Dutch Government which would bring further benefits to travellers, but these would not be finished before June 14.

"We expect that travellers from Germany, Belgium and France will prefer to travel to Amsterdam to catch the cheap flights to London, rather than travel direct from their own capitals."

"That is the sort of breakthrough which I hope will set up a price war in air fares in Europe. It is a hope, but not a certainty."

Mr Ridley said that it had not been easy to break down the resistance of some ministers in the Council to liberalizing air transport. He was not contemplating a complete deregulation



as in the United States. There would be safeguards.

It would be a hard slog, but both airlines and passengers would benefit because far more people would be able to afford to travel.

Mr Ridley welcomed the latest proposals from the Commission, although they did not go far enough.

Mr Ridley said that the present overregulated system of air transport was quite unsup-

portable. "Consumers are dissatisfied and the airlines are unprofitable. States have to produce subsidies needlessly. Regulation keeps competition out, resulting in too many seats chasing too few people."

"I believe there are millions of potential travellers in Europe who long to fly, if only governments would allow them."

In contrast, Mr Ridley said, wherever deregulation had

occurred it had been a phenomenal success, in America, on British domestic services, and in the charter market.

Labour's "hidden manifesto" was raised by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who said that Mr Neil Kinnock's proposal for a new Messina conference to draw up a new Treaty of Rome had been omitted from the party's published manifesto.

Constituency profile: London Central Campaigning among tourists

By David Cross

"Hello, Pimlico Road. This is Adam Fergusson, your Conservative candidate... Hello Ebury Street. Please come out on June 14 and vote Conservative in the European election."

With less than two weeks to go before polling day, the amplified voice of Mr Fergusson resounding from the back of a beat-up Land-Rover as it tours the streets of central London in search of voters has a plaintive edge to it. Like the other four candidates in this, one of the most marginal of the capital's ten European Parliament seats, Mr Fergusson knows only too well that he has to "wake people up and persuade them to come out and vote".

Campaigning in the huge London Central constituency, which runs from Fulham in the south to Islington in the north, is a mindboggling task, as all four candidates readily admit. Simply sifting local voters from among the tourists, commuters, shoppers and students is a serious logistical problem at this time of year.

Mr Fergusson, a journalist and member of the European Parliament for Strathclyde West during the past five years, calculates on spending just over two days in each of the nine Westminster constituencies during the current campaign.

Like most other sitting MEPs he was able to start his campaign in earnest only after the last plenary sitting of the European Parliament, which ended on May 25.

A committed European specializing in political and

international affairs, he is anxious to discuss the finer points of the European Community with potential voters. He listens patiently to the views of those who oppose Mrs Thatcher's tough approach to Britain's partners in the Community, before explaining gently that without it Britain would have lost the budget argument long ago.

"Is there anything you want to know about the Community?" he asks the owner of a boutique in one of the smarter parts of Bayswater. "No thank you," she responds firmly with a flattered smile. "I shall vote for you". Mr Fergusson looks relieved.

He is, however, less polite about his Labour and Alliance opponents. Mr Stan Newens, former Westminster Labour MP for Epping and Harlow, is committed to nuclear disarmament, anti-EEC and anti-Nato, he says. "How people can ask for votes when they don't believe in it is beyond me," he says. As for Mr Ernest Wistrich, the SDP candidate and director of the European Movement, he is too much of a committed European federalist to represent the views of Londoners in Strasbourg, Mr Fergusson says.

While acknowledging that he was totally opposed to Britain's EEC entry terms, Mr Newens argues that the whole question of withdrawal will not come up again until the next general election.

At his election rallies, Mr Newens is fond of pointing to the "madness" of the Community's farm policy. All it needs now is an intervention board to buy up pineapples at

£30 a time from greenhouse growers in the Pennines, he tells his audience amid loud chuckles and much applause.

On a more serious note, he says that he intends to fight for more funds from the EEC's social fund to ease the plight of the jobless in Britain's inner cities. With unemployment in the constituency currently running at about 18.5 per cent, he believes there is much more that a Labour MEP can do to get much-needed grants.

Finally, he is asking voters to "give a massive vote of no confidence in Mrs Thatcher's policies on jobs, health, housing and the welfare system".

Mr Wistrich, who fought the 1979 European election as a Labour candidate before leaving the party because of its opposition to the EEC, believes that his impeccable European credentials will stand him in good stead in June 14.

With one of the largest and most active Alliance memberships in the country, he has been able to canvass voters more diligently than many of his colleagues.

The Ecology Party, which is fielding 16 candidates across the country, also expects to do well in London Central. Its candidate, Mr Johnathan Porritt, a co-chairman of the party, scored more than 6,000 votes in the last European election.

On paper, the Labour Party needs a 4.2 per cent swing against the Conservatives and the Alliance a 9.5 per cent shift if either of them is to win. In a tough three-cornered fight, turnout will undoubtedly be the determining factor.

Disenchantment in Denmark

A country divided into three parts

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Disenchanted Danes vote in the first round of the European parliamentary elections on June 14 along with Britain, the Netherlands, and Eire. After the British, the Danes are clearly the most dissatisfied of the Ten with the European Community in general, and the fledgling parliament in Strasbourg in particular.

A recent EEC Eurobarometer opinion poll revealed that the Danes, second only to the British, want to see the limited powers of the European legislature in Strasbourg further reduced rather than enhanced. As if to underline the point, the Danish parliament (Folketing) went on summer recess at the end of May with an overwhelming 134 members out of 179 voting resoundingly for a

lukewarm supporters of the EEC (Social Democrats with three seats).

The pro-Market Conservative-Liberal-led coalition government now in power in Denmark held six seats in Strasbourg, with the anti-tax yet critical pro-EEC Progress Party occupying the last seat. 190 candidates representing 10 political parties are running in next week's European elections in Denmark, the jokers in the Danish Europack being the anti-EEC movement, which is again tipped to do well, the anti-tax Progress Party, whose top candidate and leader, Mr Mogens Glistrup, is campaigning from a prison cell near Elsinore, where he is serving a 3½ year sentence for gross tax fraud, and two Greenlandic candidates.

The winner of these, the second and last ever European elections to be held in Greenland, will sit for less than six months, as the vast icebound, partly devolved Danish territory is to quit the EEC on January 1, 1985, whereupon the seat reverts to Denmark.

If elected, Mr Glistrup, 59, and still the most colourful and eccentric of Danish politicians, would almost certainly be prevented from assuming his seat in the Strasbourg assembly, as he has been expelled from the Danish parliament twice already now - last time in February after he re-won his North Copenhagen seat in the Danish general elections - because of his imprisonment.

An opinion poll, conducted in early June by the generally reliable *Vilstrup Institute for Politics*, the leading Copenhagen daily newspaper, forecasts a polarisation of the Danish European vote at the upcoming elections, with both the four-party centre-rightist pro-European govt, and the anti-EEC parties improving their positions at the cost of the middle of the road Social Democrats.

The opinion poll gives the pro-Market govt parties a combined 42 per cent of the vote, compared to 36 per cent in 1979, with anti-EEC parties upping their overall support from 33 per cent to 38 per cent of the vote, to come a close second, the losers being the Social Democrats, Denmark's biggest single party, which could see its vote slump from 22 per cent to 15 per cent, and the Progress Party which, the institute predicts, will have a bad election, despite Mr Glistrup's efforts from behind bars.

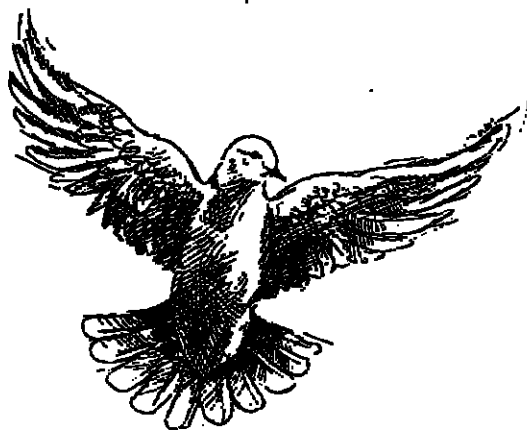


Mr Glistrup: Jailed joker in the pack

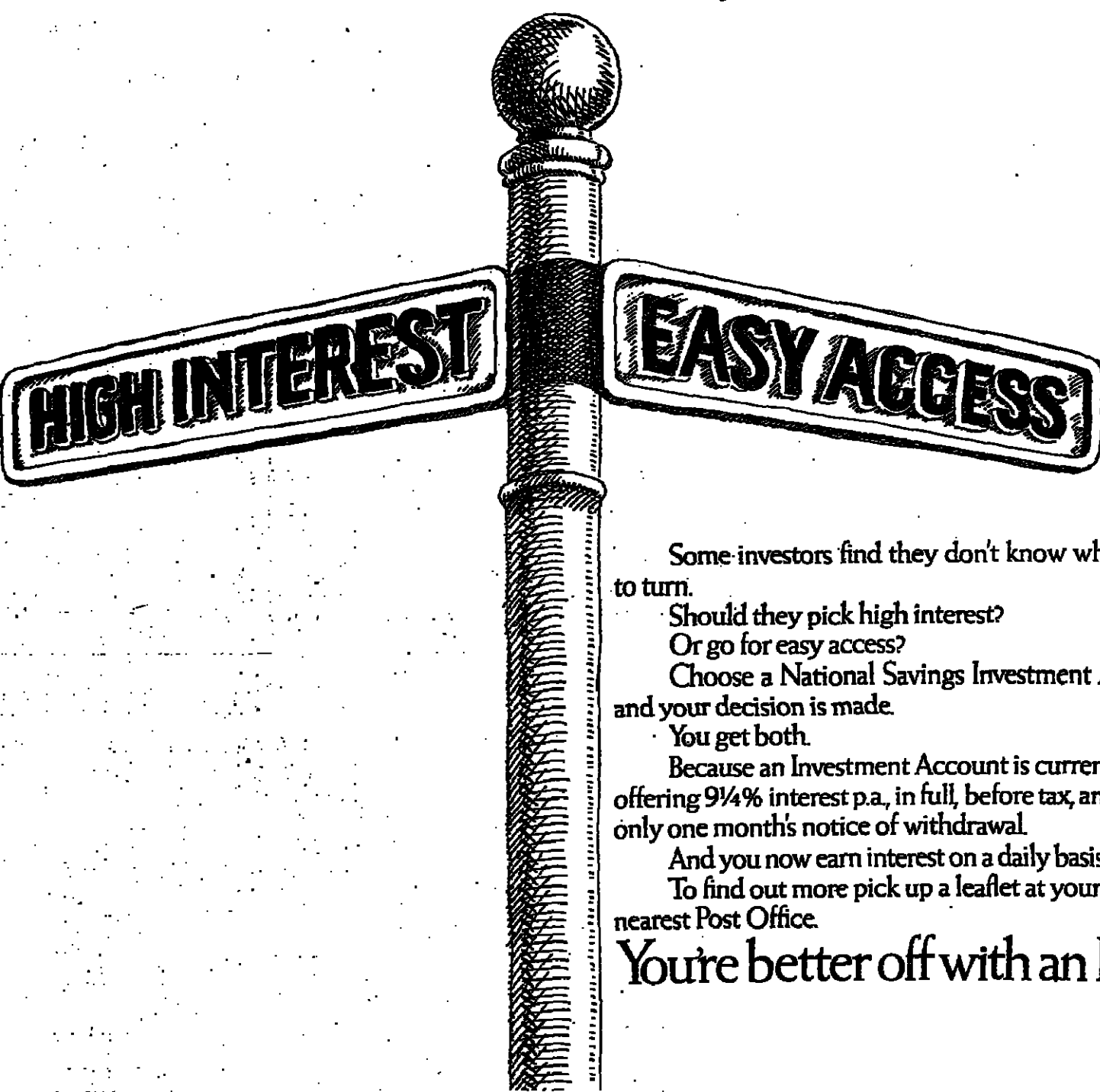
resolution reiterating Denmark's anti-European political union, pro-right-of-veto stance in Market politics.

Broadly speaking, Eurobarometers consistently show that Denmark - which is a net beneficiary of EEC membership and enjoys the highest standard of living in the Community - is divided into three equal groups on Europe - pro-Market, anti-Market, and those neither for nor against, each representing around 30 per cent of the population.

Denmark's quirky reluctance over matters European can be seen in its representation in the outgoing European parliament, where four of the country's 16 allocated seats were occupied by the People's Anti-EEC Movement, a motley cross-party formation, another five seats being held either by other directory anti-Market parties (the leftist Socialist People's Party, and Greenlandic Summit, both with one mandate) or



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Labour uses high tech to woo Euro votes

From Ian Murray, Brussels

"SOC 001" has infiltrated the British Telecom computer and 7,000 electronic noticeboards are now at the mercy of politically-motivated high technology.

In what is claimed to be a European first, the Labour Party has just opened an election campaign using what amounts to high speed junk mailing.

It is the brainchild of Mr Tony Robinson, the socialist's press officer at the European Parliament in Brussels. He has been kitted out with a mini-computer typewriter and call-up code SC 001 for the election campaign and is now using it to feed party leaflets out to the 7,000 subscribers on the "BT Gold" service. The service is free.

The first one went out on

Monday saying "Vote Labour on June 14 and give a boost to new technology". Any of the subscribers checking out the service's noticeboard on their machine would have found it.

The second one went out yesterday, an appeal by Mr Barry Seal, the party's spokesman in the European Parliament on block election mail and so give the Government an excuse for breaking the Post Office monopoly.

Such action could put marginal Labour seats like his own in West Yorkshire at risk, Mr Seal warned.

A Telnet to newspapers advising them of the new campaign only went out early yesterday morning. It had been held up because the British Telecom computer was overloaded.

Journalists removed from Amritsar

Army prepares to enter Sikh shrine

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The holiest shrine of the Sikh religion yesterday became a battlefield, as Sikh terrorists, enjoying its sanctuary, exchanged fire with the security forces surrounding it.

According to Mr K. K. Wali, the Home Minister in the central Government, the extremists inside the Golden Temple in Amritsar, produced a medium machine gun and mortars to fire at the security forces. It was the first intimation of the existence of such powerful weapons within the temple's marble walls.

One member of the armed forces and a civilian were killed by the firing outside the temple but, Mr Wali said, there was no way of knowing how many casualties had been suffered inside.

In between spells of firing at the temple, round which a crop of sandbagged emplacements and brick pillboxes have sprung up, the security forces are making a series of appeals through loudspeakers for the extremists to surrender.

A group of pilgrims who had been trapped in the temple when the siege began on Sunday, made their way out yesterday through a roundabout route, through another temple adjoining the complex, and surrendered to the authorities. According to the Home Secretary, there were 40 of them, and they did not include any known terrorists.

In the meantime the total curfew, which has been clamped on the municipal areas of Punjab state, has been extended for another 12 hours until 9 pm today. The curfew was first imposed as the Indian armed forces moved into the state and fanned out to control the key areas and restore law and order on Sunday. It is causing considerable hardship to people trapped in their homes without access to markets or provisions in heat which has been reaching around 111°F.

Witnesses describe the state looking as though a bomb had

been dropped on it. The buildings still stood, but there were no people outdoors.

The Indian Government is plainly intending to rid itself of once and for all of the terrorists who have been operating in the Golden Temple with virtual impunity for almost two years. The authorities are saying that they want to end the siege without entering the temple with armed force, but Mr Wali admitted last night that the Government has given the Army the go-ahead to enter provided the inmates have been given adequate opportunity to surrender and provided the local authorities believe they have no alternative.

"The overall objective is to avoid taking any action of that nature unless it is absolutely necessary," Mr Wali said last night.

It is also apparent that the Indian authorities wish to invade the temple without the eyes of the foreign press upon them. No foreigner is being allowed into Punjab now. A number of foreign correspondents who were already there when the night curfew was imposed on Sunday were taken from their hotels at 5 am, taken to the border with Haryana in a military bus, and abandoned there. They included correspondents for the BBC and for the Washington Post.

A correspondent for the Australian Broadcasting Company left Amritsar on Sunday night to file from Lahore in Pakistan: a few miles away, where communications are far better. He was not allowed to return by the Indian authorities although his luggage and personal belongings were still in his Amritsar hotel.

Other correspondents attempting to drive into the state were stopped at a road block and told they would be shot if they proceeded further.

The ban has also included a number of Indian nationals working for the foreign media.



Temple watch: Sikh extremists keeping an eye on troops surrounding the Golden Temple

The Home Minister denied last night that this had happened and said action was taken only against foreigners for their protection — a plain piece of nonsense.

A similar exchange of fire to that at the Golden Temple took place a few miles down the road at the temple of Tarn Tarn. There, no casualties were reported by the armed forces,

but people inside the temple tried to stir up the local Sikh population by loudspeaker announcements that the Golden Temple at Amritsar had been destroyed.

This was, of course, denied by the Indian Government. The authorities also insisted that the temple proper — which they defined as that area in which visitors had to remove their

shoes — had not been harmed in the firing. They did say, however, that other buildings in the complex had been affected.

Sikh protesters in a number of villages not under curfew, and even in some that technically were, managed to set fire to a number of properties including factories owned by their opponents. A number of people were also killed in firing

Army officer with Berlin refugees

From Our Correspondent

Nearly 20 East Germans, including an army captain, have taken refuge in the West German mission in East Berlin, West German newspapers said yesterday.

The would-be emigrants also included women and five school-age children. *Die Welt* and *Bild Zeitung* reported. The army captain, believed to be from a missile unit, faces a possible death sentence for desertion if he is returned to the East Germans, the papers added.

The Bonn Government yesterday declined to confirm or deny the reports, but the West Germans are believed to be having secret talks with East Berlin aimed at resolving the diplomatic problem.

The East Germans, however, are reported to be extremely angry over the refugees, and not prepared to guarantee freedom from prosecution for them if they leave their West German sanctuary.

Other East Germans, including the niece of Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister, took refuge in West German missions in East Berlin and Prague earlier this year. All the refugees left the missions after East Berlin promised not to prosecute them, and give priority to their applications to emigrate to West Germany.

Red-Green alliance makes formal bow in Hesse

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Germany's first "red-green alliance" — a coalition of Social Democrats (SPD) and the Greens which the Christian Democrats (CDU) have long scorned as a recipe for chaos — has formally come into being in Hesse, giving the Greens their first experience of government responsibilities in the country.

After months of argument and heart-searching by both parties, the Hesse SPD approved a plan last weekend for formal cooperation which will enable Herr Holger Börner, the party leader, to present a government with a majority in the state parliament. After a second inconclusive election last September, neither the SPD nor the CDU had a majority.

and political positions compromised. There are local issues — the building of the second runway at Frankfurt Airport, introduction of motorway speed limits — where the two parties have sharply different views. But the SPD has agreed to press hard for greater data protection, more environmental safeguards.

The Greens will be watching carefully to see the result of their first participation in government. Two years ago, they held the balance of power briefly in Hamburg, but argued each issue with the Social Democrats to the point of making practical government in the city almost impossible.

Britain launches inquiry on sinking of Marques

From Keith Hunt, Bermuda

A British Department of transport official arrived in Bermuda yesterday to start a preliminary inquiry into the sinking of the Marques 78 miles off Bermuda.

Captain Jim de Coverly, of the marine division, interviewed crew from the Polish ship *Zawiezia* Sunday before she continued on the second leg of the race to Halifax, Canada.

Zhao seeking more trade with Europe

Brussels (Reuters) — The Chinese Prime Minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, carried his campaign to promote Chinese economic development to the EEC yesterday, appealing for more trade with Europe and pledging to guarantee investments in China.

Mr Zhao, who is on a six-nation European tour aimed at attracting more foreign capital and advanced technology to China, met members of the Community's executive commission.

Commercial, technological and financial subjects dominated the talks, which made scant mention of political issues, a Commission spokesman said.

Mr Zhao called on Western European nations to increase their exports to China, saying that the needs of its one billion people could not be met without increasing external trade.

China also needs new investment capital from Europe, and is seeking to attract investors by setting up semi-autonomous economic zones where foreign and joint venture firms can operate, Mr Zhao was quoted as saying.

First test for Beirut coalition

Beirut (AP) — Parliament began a vote of confidence in Lebanon's national coalition Government yesterday.

The debate started 20 minutes late after protests by relatives of those held captive in the Christian and Muslim areas of the city. Demonstrators burnt car tyres in the streets to force MPs to listen to their pleas that the issue of their missing loved ones should head the Government's priorities.

About 150 civilians are believed to be held by rival Christian, Druze, and Shia militias.

A four-man security committee representing warring factions and the Lebanese Army met at the "green line" which divides Beirut and allowed a delegation of relatives into the Villa Mansour Parliament headquarters.

CAIRO — Cammen in a speeding car opened fire on an Israeli diplomat in a suburb here last on Monday night, wounding him in the hand and shoulder (AP reports).

Mr Zvi Kedat, an administrative attaché, underwent surgery for fractured bones in his left hand. His shoulder was grazed by a bullet.

JERUSALEM — The former Israeli Ambassador to Egypt, Mr Eliahu Ben Elissar, who returned to Israel yesterday from Cairo, said it was "the first time a diplomat of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo has been attacked in the Egyptian capital" (AFP reports).

Four held Israeli troops yesterday arrested a four-man Arab guerrilla squad which had infiltrated the annexed Golan Heights (Christopher Walker writes).

The Army spokesman said one of the captives was wounded in the operation which followed the detection of a hole in a border security fence. The unit was carrying AK47 automatic rifles and grenades.

Israel radio quoted sources claiming that Syria had recently permitted the establishment of a base in the south of the country.

Bitterness grows in Israel on Lebanon war anniversary

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

With a big anti-war demonstration scheduled in Tel Aviv at the weekend, and the Israeli death toll rapidly approaching 600, today's second anniversary of the invasion of Lebanon is being marked with the same bitter internal dissent which has characterized the conflict from the outset.

At the same time, in occupied southern Lebanon — where an estimated 12,000 Israeli troops are still dug in behind heavy fortifications — it has now been reported that Sunni Muslim leaders have joined preachers from the radical Shia Muslim majority in calling on the local population to rise up against the Jewish presence.

The anniversary week there has been marked by anti-Israeli strikes in many centres of Muslim population, the erection of road blocks, and the burning of tyres. Foreign correspondents based in Israel have been told that they can no longer travel freely in the occupied area to check the extent of such disturbances, but can only enter if accompanied by Israeli army escorts.

The total killed is certain to climb higher

Official figures issued to *The Times* by the army show that the latest total of Israelis wounded in Lebanon, 3,049, has overtaken the combined total of 3,006 Israeli soldiers and civilians injured in the 1967 Middle East war, which began 17 years ago yesterday and led to the continuing occupation of the West Bank.

The new statistics, which include those killed in accidents, show that the death toll has now reached 583 in Lebanon, compared with the 777 Israeli soldiers and civilians killed during the 1967 conflict. With ambushes in southern Lebanon taking place almost daily, military sources acknowledge that the toll is certain to rise higher.

In a letter in the *Jerusalem Post* yesterday, Mr and Mrs David Sharf, two kibbutz members who lost a son in the battle for Beaufort Castle — one of the fiercest of the war — showed that time has done little to erase the anger of many Israelis about what critics have labelled the country's "only war of choice".

"Begin and Sharon and all those who raise their hands in support of the war in Lebanon, which was not forced upon us, and all those who, through their silence, conspired in its implementation, have written a black page in the history of Israel and Zionism," they wrote.

"How tragic that there were so few who were judicious and courageous enough to oppose the war from the start. Since the battle of Beaufort, 730 days and nights have passed, and hundreds more have lost their lives in Lebanon. We shall not forget, nor shall we forgive."

The criticism has been reinforced recently by two hard-hitting books and a number of articles in the Hebrew press. One of the best informed books, *Israel's war in Lebanon*, was written by Mr Zeev Schiff, former defence correspondent of *Haaretz* and Mr Ehud Yaari, who covered much of the fighting for Israel television. They accused Mr Ariel Sharon, the war's chief architect, of "a refined variation of the putsch" by manipulating the Cabinet to his personal ambitions.

Dr Janet Aviad, of Jerusalem, one of the leaders of Peace Now, which is organizing next Saturday's protest, explained that opposition to the war would be linked to condemnation of the recently uncovered Jewish underground aimed at Arabs in the West Bank. She expects 70,000 Israelis to attend, although independent observers believe this may be an over-estimate.

The June 6, 1982 invasion and the subsequent broadening of the war by the Government — especially Mr Sharon, the former Defence Minister — has emerged as one of the key issues in the campaign for next month's general election, with the main opposition Labour Party pushing for a total withdrawal over a few months.

Reserve General Motta Gur, the former Israeli Chief of Staff, who is Labour's campaign manager, claimed that a system to establish relative security for settlements in northern Israel could be established "in two to three months", after which Israel could withdraw. Labour sources estimate that such a pull-back could save the exchequer around £700,000 a day.

Government ministers are also committed, in principle, to an eventual withdrawal, although none have been prepared to put a time limit on it, let alone as short as three months. In an interview published on the eve of the anniversary, Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, declared: "It is optimistic to say that two years from now, we will be south of the international boundary."

Israeli deployment further south of the main occupied city of Sidon is expected soon, if the security situation permits, to help the Government's popularity in the run-up to polling on July 23.

Dr Foad Mohieddin: Collapsed at his office

Egypt's Premier dies of sudden heart attack

From Alice Britton, Cairo

Dr Foad Mohieddin, the Egyptian Prime Minister, collapsed and died of a heart attack minutes after he had arrived at his Cairo office, it was announced yesterday.

Dr Mohieddin who was 58, was a radiologist turned politician. He entered Parliament for the first time in 1957 under President Nasser. He was a provincial governor between 1968 and 1974, then joined the Cabinet as Minister of Local Government and became Minister of Health.

President Sadat appointed him Deputy Prime Minister in May 1980, a post he retained until President Mubarak took office after President Sadat's assassination in October 1981. In January 1982, President Mubarak asked him to form a Cabinet which was reshuffled in March 1983.

He was concurrently Secretary-General of President Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) which won an overwhelming majority in parliamentary elections on May 27. Dr Mohieddin ran the NDP's day to day affairs under the chairmanship of President Mubarak and was the main target of attacks from the opposition parties during the pre-election campaign.

The Opposition claimed he was responsible for alleged vote-rigging and voter intimidation by NDP partisans which they believed gave the NDP its majority in the new Parliament. Recently rumours have been circulating that Dr Mohieddin might be replaced as Prime Minister.

Employers win ruling on lockouts in Germany

Bonn — West German metal industry employers and union leaders met in Stuttgart yesterday for further talks in an attempt to end the three-week strike.

But there was little optimism that the talks would bring an early end to the action aimed at securing a 35-hour week. More than 400,000 workers in the metal industry have been made idle through strikes, lay-offs, or lockouts.

The employers and the leaders of the metalworkers' union, IG Metall, met hours after the Hesse State Labour Court in Frankfurt overturned a ruling by a lower court and held that the employers had the right to lock out metal industry workers in retaliation for the strike action. The union said it would appeal.

War criminal executed

Brussels (Reuters). A Belgian held prisoner in the Soviet Union since 1968 has been executed on charges of war crimes committed in the Second World War, the Belgian Foreign Ministry said.

Yermak Lukianov, a Soviet emigre naturalized as a Belgian in 1967, was arrested in 1968 while visiting the Soviet Union. He was convicted of treason and collaborating with the Nazis.

Unesco deputies appointed

Paris (AFP). Unesco has announced the appointment of two assistant secretaries general, one temporary, at the start of studies aimed at structural reform.

M Jean Knapp of France, under-director general since 1979, and Mr Gerald Bolla of Switzerland, who will serve for nine months, will report to the director-general.

Alpine deaths

Lausanne (Reuters). — Switzerland's alps have claimed more than 1,048 lives in the past five years and left tens of thousands injured according to a report published yesterday.

Bomb attack

Colombo — A police inspector and two constables were killed when Tamil rebels hurled bombs at a police jeep at Vavuniya about 60 miles south of Jaffna.

Wildlife prize

Jane Goodall, (above) a Briton known for her pioneering research on chimpanzees in Africa, has won the \$50,000-dollar (€35,000) J. Paul Getty Wildlife conservation prize. The World Wildlife Fund-US, said.

Arafat visit

Belgrade (AP) — gave a ceremonial welcome to Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, here yesterday.

Tribal slaughter

Dhaka (Reuters) Tribesmen involved in a land dispute have killed at least 123 people and wounded about 900 in several villages in south-eastern Bangladesh, government sources said.

Six detained

Six Britons are being detained in Libya without charge, rather than five as originally thought, the British Foreign office said in London.

Synagogue stone

Jerusalem (AFP). — The foundation stone of what is claimed to be the world's largest synagogue will be laid here on Sunday. It will be as high as a 10-storey building.

Shuttle date

Cape Canaveral (AP) — A test firing of the space shuttle *Discovery's* main engines confirmed the ship is sound, and NASA set June 22 as the launching date for its maiden flight.

Fishermen killed

Bangkok (Reuters) — Eight Thai fishermen were killed when Vietnamese forces fired on their trawler in international waters in the Gulf of Thailand. Thai marine authorities said.

'Chemical' war

Bangkok (Reuters) — Kampuchea yesterday accused Thailand of using chemical warfare against civilians near the border in pursuit of a Thai military spokesman denied the charge.

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Five states could give Mondale nomination

Democratic voters went to the polls in five American states yesterday in primary elections that could decide whether Mr Walter Mondale will be able to win the Democratic Party presidential nomination on the first ballot at the party's convention in July.

He faced Senator Gary Hart and the Rev Jesse Jackson in all five states. They were:

CALIFORNIA
Pledged delegates: 306.
Method of voting: District winner-take-all — no "beauty contest" preference vote.
Participation: Registered Democrats only.
1980 winner: Kennedy.

NEW JERSEY
Pledged delegates: 107.
Method of voting: District winner-take-all — non-binding "beauty contest" preference vote.
Participation: Registered Democrats and Independents.
1980 winner: Kennedy.

Mr Hart hopes to perform well in the large suburban communities that feed New York City and Philadelphia, also around Princeton and the state's other universities. Mr Mondale is pinning his hopes on labour, teachers and pen-

sioners (New Jersey is the second oldest state in the country, after Florida).

NEW MEXICO
Pledged delegates: 23.
Method of voting: Proportional representation.
Participation: Registered Democrats only.
1980 winner: Kennedy.

The key to this contest lies with the Hispanic community who comprise 40 per cent of the population. Mr Mondale has the support of most Hispanic leaders, but a number have sided with Mr Hart.

SOUTH DAKOTA
Pledged delegates: 35.
Method of voting: Proportional representation.
Participation: Registered Democrats only.
1980 winner: Kennedy.

Although South Dakota borders Mr Mondale's home state of Minnesota, its primary is expected to be won decisively by Mr Hart. Mr Hart, who managed the 1972 campaign for Mr George McGovern (a former senator from South Dakota) is the only candidate to have spent much time in the state.

WEST VIRGINIA
Pledged delegates: 35.
Method of voting: District winner-take-all — non-binding "beauty contest" preference vote.
Participation: Registered Democrats only.
1980 winner: Carter.

Of the five contests, this is one most likely to be won by Mr Mondale. It was the only one of the June primary states to go to his former boss, President Carter.

Lawson fails to counter French finesse in EEC propaganda duel

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

Britain was easily outmanoeuvred in the pre-EEC summit propaganda campaign during this week's Finance Council in Luxembourg.

As a result, the summit will be more difficult than ever.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, hoped that tough and binding rules to control EEC spending could be agreed for final approval at the summit. He may even have cherished a slight hope that further progress would be made on one of Britain's main campaigns in the Community - a common market in insurance services. He might have expected to bask in a bit of glory as host finance minister at this week's economic summit in London.

But he went home again on Monday evening with virtually nothing to show for a day of hard argument and with M Jacques Delors, the French Minister chairing the meeting, stealing all the glory available.

Most serious was the failure to obtain any agreement on a binding system to control the EEC budget. "Budgetary discipline", as the EEC jargon phrase calls, is one of the essentials for

any settlement at the Fontainebleau summit. Britain has made it very clear that it cannot allow any increase in the Community's resources until it is confident that such discipline will be enforced.

Considerable progress was made at the Brussels summit in March with everyone agreeing on the need for a control system. But when Mr Lawson pressed on Monday for the amendment to the treaty which Britain considers is the one clear-cut way of ensuring that spending is controlled, he ran into a brick wall.

President Mitterrand has gone out of his way in recent speeches to insist that the EEC treaties must not be altered in order to provide a settlement which would accommodate Britain. Other ideas were put forward on Monday but Mr Lawson insisted they were "not sufficiently robust to make budgetary discipline effective."

As a result, the question now looks like being pushed through to the summit, where it will add to Mrs Thatcher's pile of difficult demands to be negotiated there.

M Delors, who characterized

the discussions as "very positive" carefully and condescendingly succeeded in presenting Britain as an outsider at the meeting.

On its own Britain had blocked a pet French scheme to put up some £60m of Community money as venture capital for small businesses. Mr Lawson may have explained his reasons to the press, M Delors said, but he had failed to convince the other nine ministers.

M Delors was said that Britain had not been prepared to offer a quid pro quo for the fact the France had been prepared to blow the dust off the insurance dossier.

But he was proud to announce that he had issued instructions that in future the ECU (European currency unit) would be quoted on the Paris Bourse.

Poor Mr Lawson, who had earlier blustered that "what Britain is seeking to do is to make the Community work", had been found lacking in Community commitment. He wanted to see freedom of real capital movement and freedom of real services in the community.

M Delors, by recognizing a artificial currency, had struck a much truer and more telling note of European idealism.

Sakharov's life may still be in danger

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Sources close to the Sakharov family say they fear Dr Andrei Sakharov's life is in danger despite official assurances that he is in good health.

The Kremlin responded on Monday night to rumours which circulated in the West last weekend about Dr Sakharov's death. Tass said Dr Sakharov and his wife, Mrs Yelena Bonner, were "in good health and not starving". The Tass statement repeated the phrase "in good health" twice but was otherwise relatively short and consisted of a reiteration of Moscow's charge that Dr Sakharov's hunger strike was a stunt devised by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Tass statement was not printed in *Pravda* yesterday. The Soviet public has so far been kept in the dark about Western concern over Dr Sakharov's fate. Dr Sakharov went on hunger strike on May 2 and was joined later by Mrs Bonner. Both have disappeared from their home in Gorky, where Dr Sakharov was exiled for human rights activities.

Sources said the Tass denial of "false reports" of Dr Sakharov's death was as significant for what it did not say as for what it did say. The statement did not indicate the couple's whereabouts and left open the possibility that they have been force fed.

Dr Sakharov, who is 63, has a



Mrs Tatyana Yankelevich, Dr Sakharov's stepdaughter, appealing to Mr Olaf Palme

Palme may intervene

Stockholm (Reuters) - Mrs Tatyana Yankelevich, the stepdaughter of Dr Andrei Sakharov, said yesterday that Mr Olaf Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, might intervene on behalf of her parents.

Mrs Yankelevich, who is touring European countries to campaign on behalf of the Sakharovs, said after meeting Mr Palme that he told her he would consider appealing directly to Moscow.

Road toll prompts new drive on drink

From Alan Tiller, Paris

"Take control of yourself before we do" is the slogan for the latest anti-drink campaign launched yesterday by French road safety authorities in an effort to reduce the number of traffic deaths caused by alcohol abuse. These were put at 5,000 last year of a total of 12,000. First quarter figures this year showed the rate rising.

The campaign will also use the government slogan against alcoholism in general: "Un verre ça va, trois verres bonjour les dégâts" (one glass is all right; three glasses, say hello to the damage). The new drive has been timed for the Whitsun holiday but will continue through the year. M Pierre Mayet, road safety director at the transport ministry, said:

He announced a propaganda campaign aimed at greater respect for the stiffer law passed last year which fixes the legal limit in the blood at 0.80 grams a litre, the equivalent of an empty stomach of half a litre of wine or two whiskies.

This and harsher sentences (one month to a year in jail compared with the previous 10 days to a month, fines from £44 to £680 and suspension of licences) have not had any effect on the figures.

M Mayet said drunken driving was almost exclusively a male problem.



Mr Lawson: Outmanoeuvred



M Delors: All the glory

Famine in Africa tops UN agenda

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The United Nations World Food Council, on which 36 nations are represented by ministers or senior officials, meets in Addis Ababa next weekend for its annual session, with the African famine situation on its agenda.

The council, set up after the 1974 World Food Conference, acts as a political pressure group dealing with problems of food supply and production. This year's conference marks the end of the council's first decade, and conference reports note that, whereas food scarcity was regarded as the main problem in 1974, the situation today is marked by vast overproduction and unmarketable surpluses in North America and Europe and

by famine and food shortages in many developing countries.

The council's executive director, Mr Maurice Williams, warns of the danger of countries now facing famine of the West's tendency to regard food aid as unnecessary or counter-productive.

He says many African countries are trying to overcome their food problems - and an increasing number are receiving technical assistance in drawing up and implementing food strategies.

Africa, he says, must be helped to expand its economy, so that it is no longer forced to beg for aid when food shortages occur.

DeLorean's wife denies trying to impress jury

From Iver Davis, Los Angeles

The model, Cristina Ferrare DeLorean, yesterday denounced those who claim she appears in court to support her husband merely as a fashion prop to influence the jury.

"I get angry at people who say I'm purely a prop," she said. "I want to be at John's side. He needs me. I give him support and comfort and I resent the fact that people say I'm there as a prop."

The wife of the former carmaker said she was not afraid of the future but was uncertain about it. I don't think of John being found guilty. To me, it's almost impossible if there's any justice in the world.

She conceded that if the jury did convict Mr DeLorean, "it would have a devastating effect on our children".

Australia asked to hold inquiry on atom tests

From Tony Duboudia, Melbourne

The Federal Government has been urged by an official committee to hold a public inquiry into the way British atomic tests in Australia in the 1950s and 1960s were conducted and their effects on human health.

The recommendation was contained in a report by a committee headed by Professor Charles Kerr of Sydney University's preventive and social medicine unit, appointed only on May 15 by the federal Government to investigate whether any Australians were put at risk by the British test.

The committee, whose report was tabled in Federal Parliament yesterday, looked at major bomb tests and minor trials conducted at Emu, Monte Bello Island and Maralinga.

Eskimos hold key in Greenland poll

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Greenland's 32,000 electorate votes in local elections today for the third time since the world's biggest island achieved home rule under the Danish crown in 1979.

Three parties represented by 104 candidates are running in the election, the second in just over a year. The poll will determine the complexion of Greenland's political leadership in the important period following the territory's final withdrawal from the European Community on January 1, 1985, a move decided in a referendum in 1982.

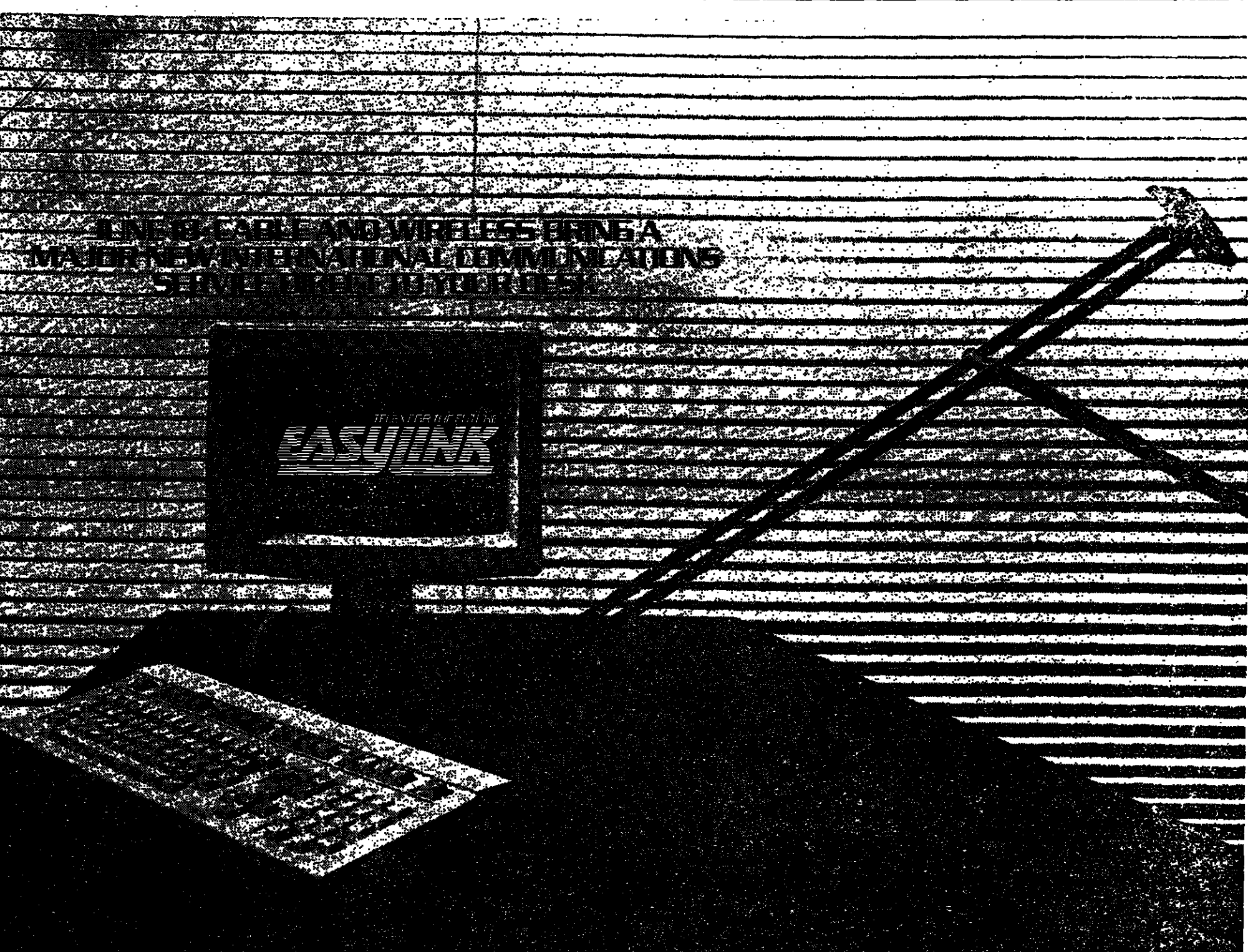
Today's vote was brought about by a domestic political crisis over the terms of Greenland's exit from the EEC, which it reluctantly joined along with Denmark in 1973. The ruling left-wing Siumut Party of Mr Jonathan Mitzfeldt, chairman of the Landssting, Greenland's legislature in the capital, Godthaab, lost its overall parliamentary majority when its coalition partner, the two-member Inuit (Eskimo) party voted against an exit formula nego-

tiated by the Government with Brussels and approved by the right-wing Atassut opposition party.

The withdrawal formula, passed by 24 votes to two in the 26-seat Landssting last March, allows EEC boats to fish an annual catch of 140,000 tonnes in Greenland's waters over a five year period in return for yearly payments from the Ten of £25.5m, coupled with an associate trade agreement with the Community.

In the outgoing Parliament, Siumut and Atassut each had 12 seats, with the nationalist Inuit Party holding two seats and a pivotal position.

Severe problems confront Greenland, which was a Danish colony from 1721 to 1953, as it seeks greater autonomy outside Europe. The high birthrate of the 1950s and 1960s is now fuelling unemployment, now at 5 per cent of the work force and rising sharply, and the quarter of the territory's 52,000 inhabitants engaged in the fishing industry have been severely hit by the record cold winters of the past three years.



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Ceausescu visit fails to ease tensions between Moscow and Bucharest

From Richard Owen, Moscow

East European sources said yesterday that although the way had been cleared for next week's Comecon summit in Moscow, there were still significant tensions between Russia and Romania after President Ceausescu's one day visit to Moscow on Monday.

President Ceausescu's most recent act of rebellion was to announce Romania's participation in the Los Angeles Olympic Games despite the withdrawal of Moscow and most of its East European allies.

Tass said after talks between Mr Ceausescu and Mr Gorbachev that the atmosphere had been not only cordial but also businesslike and frank, which in Soviet parlance means harsh words were exchanged.

On the other hand the long-delayed summit has apparently been given the green light. Earlier there were reports and Mr Ceausescu had emphasized the importance of the coming summit and agreed it would lead to improvements in economic cooperation.

Mr Ceausescu irritated his hosts however by referring to the Kremlin as tensions caused by deployment of both American and Soviet missiles in Europe. Moscow's view is that Soviet deployments in Eastern Europe are a necessary retaliatory measure. Bucharest blames both East and West for the arms race and the current impasse.

The Soviet press yesterday emphasized the award to Mr Ceausescu of the Order of the October Revolution and his promise of "good neighbourliness" and strengthened relations, the press also emphasized "acute differences" at the Western economic summit in London.

'Journalist' on stolen passport sought

San José (Reuters and AFP) - Costa Rica has issued an international warrant for a man travelling on a stolen Danish passport who escaped unscathed from a bomb blast at a police station last week, a police spokesman said.

Señor Francisco Ruiz, of the Judicial investigation authorities, told reporters that the warrant had been issued for a man travelling as Per Anker Hansen on a Danish passport.

The explosion last Wednesday killed five people and wounded 28 at a press conference in Nicaragua given by Señor Pastora, the guerrilla leader, whose Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (Arde) is fighting the Sandinista regime in Managua.

Mr Palle Paaby, the Danish Consul in San José, told reporters: "It is absolutely certain that the man here was travelling on a stolen passport from a person who had the name he was using."

Señor Pastora, the Arde spokesman, said he saw the man after the blast lying unhurt among some barrels outside the press conference building.

In Copenhagen, the Danish Foreign Ministry said on Monday that the man being sought in connection with the blast was almost certainly not a Dane.

Mr Peter Torbiornsson, a Swedish journalist who attended the press conference in which the explosion occurred, said a man who called himself Per Anker Hansen was also present. He was aged about 27 and said he was a Danish journalist working for a French photographic agency known as "Europe Seven". Mr Torbiornsson added.

Reporters in Paris have carried out an abortive search for the agency and for the home address given on the register of the hotel here in San José, where the man stayed last week. "We got on pretty well. He had a lot of credentials but I did not look at any of them," Mr Torbiornsson said from his hospital bed here. He is being treated for burns on his hands.

Monday, a Danish architect called Per Anker Hansen, living in Copenhagen, telephoned the Danish Foreign Ministry to say that his passport was stolen when his flat was broken into four years ago.

Commenting on the bomb, the architect told the Danish newspaper *Berlingske Tidende*: "I have nothing to do with the Affair." Señor Pastora, who has been deported from Costa Rica, was wounded in the blast at his guerrilla base about a mile from the border with Costa Rica.

A judge put a ban on Sunday on blast survivors leaving Costa Rica. But the Gran Via Hotel, where the man stayed last week, said he had left on Thursday, the day after the blast.

Immigration sources said he had not passed through the international airport.



Blast mystery: A 'reporter' travelling on a stolen Danish passport in the name of Per Hansen, found lying injured behind barrels at the scene of the Nicaraguan news conference bomb blast.

Greek party dismantles pirate radio

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A pirate radio station set up by the Communist Party of the Interior. Better known as the Eurocommunists, suspended its operation one hour after going on the air, following a warning from the Greek public prosecutor.

Radio and television are a state monopoly in Greece. The Socialist Government has allocated equal television time to the three main political parties represented in the national Parliament, but less to the smaller groups.

The pirate station, which styled itself "radio-dialogue", was set up in the party's Athens headquarters as a protest against what its leaders saw as the unfair treatment by the state-controlled mass media during the campaign for the European elections.

Party officials complied with the prosecutor's request that the station should be dismantled. Last week a pirate station set up by Mr. Stathis Panagoulis, a dissident Socialist deputy, for the same reasons, was impounded by police who raided his office and later his home.

Opposition candidates are protesting that the Government is abusing its control of television programmes to indulge in heavy-handed partisan propaganda without restraint.

— Letter from Athens, back page

Romania turns screw on its Magyars

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

A new Romanian crackdown on the Hungarian minority in Transylvania has begun, emigrant sources said in Vienna yesterday.

The 1.7m Hungarian inhabitants in the province, which by the Treaty of Trianon in 1919 was assigned to Romania, have had to endure a gradual but relentless process of romanization under the Ceausescu regime.

The latest measures have included the passing in recent weeks of a decree limiting the numbers of Hungarian peak students at the University of Cluj to 5 per cent. At present, Hungarians make up almost 65 per cent of student numbers.

In addition, the government has also insisted that geography and history teachers in all schools in Transylvania be Romanians.

The laws follow the sacking late last month of several Hungarian theatre directors in the province who were planning to celebrate the centenary of the Hungarian architect Károlyi Kos in a new play, which the Romanian authorities banned as a fascist provocation.

Searches of Hungarian writers' houses have been stepped recently.

Colombian ceasefire is triumph for Betancur

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

These are early days, but something very significant may be happening in Colombia which could point a way to end the strife in Central America. The question is whether the Reagan administration is willing to learn from it.

Last week a ceasefire treaty between the biggest guerrilla group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces came into effect.

If the treaty works, Farc's leadership says it will accept President Betancur's comprehensive amnesty to rebels, return to civilian life, and reorganize as a non-violent Marxist-Leninist army movement in the political mainstream.

The pact is a personal triumph for the President and a tribute to his courage and determination. Only a few weeks ago he seemed to have his back to the wall after a series of rebel uprisings and the assassination in Bogotá of his Justice Minister, Señor Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, by contract killers hired by drug racketeers.

With the ceasefire pact Señor Betancur has put into practice what he has long been preaching to the United States about Central America: that subversion is rooted in social, political, and economic injustices, and that only by tackling such problems and negotiating with all political elements - including guerrillas - can peace be achieved.

If the ceasefire leads to a lasting peace with Farc, it will vastly reduce the number of Colombian guerrillas, the most active in South America. Farc has 27 fronts with a total of 5,000 men and women at arms, although its support infrastructure would push its membership much higher. Military sources calculate that Farc represents roughly 70 per cent of guerrillas.

Farc's high command has praised Señor Betancur's "good faith".

One big threat to the ceasefire could be the Drug Mafia. They have been in retreat since the murder of Señor Lara Bonilla, who had campaigned courageously against their activities. There is strong evidence that the racketeers have been running arms to M19 and at least some of Farc's fronts, as well as paying the guerrillas generously for guarding coca and marijuana plantations.

Uneasy truce holds in Salvador War-weary enemies give Duarte hope

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Far from provoking the rash of retributive violence so many have anticipated, the elections in El Salvador have been followed by a period of calm which some have chosen to interpret as hope for a lasting peace.

The losing candidate, Major Roberto D'Auboussin, failed to turn up for President José Napoleón Duarte's inauguration ceremony last Friday. But, more petulant than vengeful, the right has otherwise been surprisingly meek.

Since the May 6 poll the death squads have not even issued threatening communiques, let alone set about the trail of murders which President Duarte's Christian Democrats, labour leaders and academics had feared.

Many guerrilla insiders had expected the rebel Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) to cause havoc before, during, and especially after election day. There was much talk of a May offensive to try to undermine this latest attempt at democracy in El Salvador. But there had been no interruption of the seasonal lull.

The FMLN and its political wing, the Democratic Revolutionary Front (DRF), have even offered Señor Duarte "dialogue without preconditions".

Most importantly, true to ex-President Alvaro Magaña's outgoing speech on Friday, the armed forces have demonstrated "significant institutional progress".

Lately, giving appearance at least to becoming a less political and more military instrument.

The head of the 55 American military advisers in El Salvador, Colonel Joseph Stangorham, said on Monday evening "the military initiative at the moment (in the war) rests with the government forces".

President Duarte's honeymoon period of government could easily go up in smoke. "All it would take for the edifice to crumble would be for the guerrillas to take an important town and the Army to panic," said a senior Christian Democrat.

Both the guerrillas and the army show signs, though, after a four-and-a-half-year civil war of attrition more than anything else - that they are tired of fighting.

If the war continues at a low ebb long enough for President Duarte to consolidate his hold on power and for the political option in El Salvador to become more plausible, then hopes for peace will be bolstered.

US envoy seeks new deal on Namibia

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, will meet Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and Mr P. K. Botha, the Foreign Minister, in Rome at the end of this week to consider ways of breaking the impasse on Namibian independence.

Last month, a conference in Lusaka attended by South Africa, internal Namibian political parties and Swapo, narrowly failed to reach agreement on a deal which would have enabled Pretoria to overcome its objections to the presence of Cuban troops in Angola and allow Namibia to become independent.

President Kaunda of Zambia, the host at Lusaka, has called for a new negotiating process to capitalize on the progress made. The US which for the past three years has been spearheading the efforts of the five-nation Western "contact group" to solve the Namibia problem, was not a Lusaka participant.

At the Rome meeting, Mr Crocker will discuss his own recent trip to southern Africa during which he met senior representatives from the Angolan Government in Lusaka. An American official described these talks as very encouraging.

This is all part of a concerted attempt to put the final pieces of the complex Namibian independence jigsaw into place. The contact group and frontline African nations have been trying - so far without success - to find a solution for more than two years.

One reason President Kaunda believes agreement is " tantalizingly close" is because Pretoria has indicated it is prepared to compromise on the "linkage issue" - the joint US-South African demand for the removal of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition for a Namibian settlement.

In the past few weeks South African leaders have indicated that the Cuban issue could be bypassed if Swapo and the internal Namibian parties could settle their differences. Mr Crocker will also question Mr P. W. Botha about the outcome of his trip to Europe, the most extensive foreign journey undertaken by a South African leader in more than two decades.

Court of Appeal

Partial conspiracy is still a crime

Regina v Anderson (William Ronald)

Before Lord Justice Purchas, Mrs Justice Haddon and Mr Justice Hobhouse

[Judgment delivered May 25]

A person who ostensibly agreed with others who intended to pursue a course of conduct which necessarily involved the commission of an offence, while reserving to himself a private intention only to go part of the way in assisting in the commission of the offence, had the necessary guilty mind to support a conviction for conspiracy under section 1 (1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977, as amended by section of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held, dismissing William Ronald Anderson's appeal against his conviction for conspiracy to defraud, by the commission of a conspiracy under section 1 (1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977, as amended by section of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981.

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Law Report June 6 1984

Sellers liable after arrest of vessel

Athens Cape Naviera SA v Deutsche Dampschiffahrts-Gesellschaft ("Hansa") Artien-Gesellschaft (The Barenfels)

Before Mr Justice Sheen

[Judgment delivered May 24]

Sellers of a ship were liable to the buyers under a guarantee in the contract of sale when the vessel was lawfully arrested.

Mr Justice Sheen so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division when he allowed the buyers' appeal from arbitrators who had dismissed the claim for indemnity under clause 9 of the Norwegian Saleform, after the buyers had provided security so that the Barenfels could be released after arrest at Umm Said, Qatar, in respect of debts owed by the sellers to the Qatar National Shipping Company of Doha.

Mr Justice Sheen provided that "the sellers guarantee that the vessel at the time of delivery is free from all encumbrances and maritime liens or any other debts whatsoever. Should any claims which have been incurred prior to the time of delivery be made against the vessel, the sellers hereby undertake to indemnify the buyers against all consequences of such claims."

Mr Bruce Reynolds for the buyers, Mr M. N. Howard for the sellers.

MR JUSTICE SHEEN said that the arbitrators had held that the language of clause 9 was insufficiently clear to enable the buyers to an indemnity following the arrest of the vessel.

The clause should, not be construed as referring solely to maritime liens recognized by an English maritime court. The clause gave wide protection.

If a shipowner sold a vessel with a guarantee that the vessel was "free from all encumbrances or any other debts whatsoever" he guaranteed that the vessel could not be arrested in respect of any of his debts. The words of the guarantee must refer to the debts of the seller because a vessel could not be a debtor. Encumbrances included claims and liabilities attaching to a ship and might be in respect of liabilities in respect of a sister-ship.

The arbitrators should have held that the first sentence of clause 9 embraced any indebtedness in relation to any ship in respect of which Barenfels was liable to be arrested at the suit of the creditor of the sellers.

The sellers had undertaken to indemnify the buyers against all consequences of any claims made against the vessel "which have been incurred prior to the time of delivery". The language was ungrammatical because claims were not incurred. To give the sentence reasonable meaning it should read "Should any claims in respect of liabilities which have been incurred prior to the time of delivery be made against the vessel".

It appeared that under Qatar law a creditor could arrest a vessel which had been sold to a new owner provided it was owned by the debtor when the debt arose and gave a wider range of remedies to creditors of shipowners than English law. The proceedings had been properly brought in Qatar.

If the buyers had not given security no doubt there would have been an application in the Qatar court to sell the vessel.

His Lordship was at a loss to understand what the arbitrators meant by their finding that the vessel's detention was solely for a conservatory purpose.

They stated that the claim was brought against the sellers but the buyers' ship was arrested. When a ship was under arrest the owners had only two courses - either to put up security in order to obtain the ship's release or to take no action and allow the ship to be sold. That was the hallmark of an action *in rem*.

In Qatar, the plaintiff could proceed against any ship which was owned by the debtor at the time when the debt arose. There was, therefore, a remedy against the vessel for debts of her former owners. The new owners had no liability for the debts and any claim *in personam* against the buyers would fail.

The appeal must be allowed. The sellers were in breach of clause 9 of the contract for sale and were liable to indemnify the buyers against all consequences of the claims made against the ship.

Solicitors: Richards, Butler & Co; Bird & Bird.

Right of action barred by arbitration clause

Society Mobil Oil Company Inc and Others v West of England Ship Owners Mutual Insurance Association (London)

Before Mr Justice Leggatt

[Judgment delivered May 25]

Section 1 (1) of the Third Parties (Rights against Insurers) Act 1930 operated, where an insured company had been wound up, to transfer to a third party having a claim against the insured company not the insured's claim against the insurer but the contractual rights of the insured under the contract of insurance. Accordingly, where that contract contained a Scott Avery clause (1863) 5 HL Cas 811 which made the submission of any dispute to arbitration a condition precedent to the insured's right to sue under the contract, a third party's action was barred by that clause, even though it referred only to claims by the insured.

Mr Justice Leggatt so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, giving judgment for the defendant, the West of England Ship Owners Mutual Insurance Association (London) Ltd.

England Ship Owners Mutual Insurance Association (London) Ltd. a protection and indemnity (P & I) club, in two actions brought by the plaintiffs, Society Mobil Oil Company Inc, Mobil Oil Company Ltd and Mobil Oil AG under section 1 of the 1930 Act.

The defendant had taken a preliminary point as to whether the requirement of rule 25 of its rules, that members submit any dispute to its committee and, if need be, to arbitration before any action was brought against it, deprived the plaintiffs, who had not complied with that requirement, of any right of action against it.

Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr Richard D. Jacobs for the defendant, Mr Bernard Rix, QC and Mr Richard Wood for the plaintiff.

MR JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the plaintiffs had contended that *Freshwater v Western Australian Insurance Co Ltd* [1933] 1 KB 515, *Dennihy v Bellamy* [1938] 2 All ER 262 and *Smith v Pearl Assurance Co Ltd* [1939] 1 All ER 95, in all of which a third party had been held to be subject to a *Smith v Avery* clause in an insurance policy, were distinguishable on the basis that the clause requiring reference to arbitration in *Freshwater's* case had referred to disputes arising between the insured or any claimant and the company, and that the same must have been so in *Dennihy's* and *Smith's* cases, whereas in this case rule 25 referred only to disputes between members and the association. "Members", it had been argued, could not include non-members such as the plaintiffs.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, the effect of section 1 (1) of the 1930 Act, apart from which the plaintiffs had no cause of action against the defendant, was to transfer to the plaintiffs the contractual rights of the insured under the policy.

Those rights remained subject to the same incidents as they had been when they were vested in the insured: the plaintiffs had succeeded in the insured's shoes, as Lord Denning had said in *Post Office v Norwich Union Fire Insurance*

Queen's Bench Division

Industrial tribunal costs

Johnson v Baxter

Where an industrial tribunal reserved its decision a party who expected to be successful and who thought that he had grounds for applying for costs under rule 11 of Schedule 1 to the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (SI 1980 No 884) should make an application at the conclusion of the hearing in order to avoid the expense of a separate hearing on costs.

Mr Justice Bristow, sitting in the Employment Appeal Tribunal with Miss J. Collier and Mr E. A. Webb, so stated on May 24 when dismissing an appeal by the employer, Mr Colin Johnson, from a decision of a Cymru industrial tribunal last July who awarded the employee, Miss Diana Baxter, £230 costs.

HIS LORDSHIP said that in accordance with ordinary principles of law an application for costs had

Industrial tribunal costs

Where an industrial tribunal did not reserve their decision any application should be made forthwith.

When the decision was reserved it was difficult to avoid the trouble, delay and expense of a separate hearing on costs, which might well need to await the outcome of an appeal.

The terms of rule 11 were so stringent that there were few occasions when a party could expect an order for costs even if he won.

Even in the reserved decision case the expense of an extra hearing on costs might be avoided if the party which anticipated victory were to say to the tribunal that if successful he was applying now for costs, explaining why and inviting the tribunal to deal with costs in giving their decision and reasons.

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Summit Services

THE ARTS

Another Country, which opens at the Odeon, Haymarket, on Friday, marks the cinema debut of the director Marek Kaniévski; he was scarcely the obvious choice, as Joan Goodman discovers

Digging down to an emotional tangle

Another Country, the successful West End play by Julian Mitchell, has been turned into a film almost, it seems, in defiance of the conventional Hollywood wisdom that frowns on politics and homosexuality. What Hollywood does not have — and what England has come up with — is a director with the sensibility to dig beneath the twin diatribes to the tangle of emotion below. Marek Kaniévski, an Englishman whose parents were born in Poland and came here as refugees after the Second World War, is himself a product of the Wandsworth Comprehensive School and makes his cinema debut with this thinly veiled study of the young Guy Burgess (called Bennett in the play and film), the upper-middle-class Englishman who became a spy for Russia and escaped to Moscow just before the political scandal broke in the 1950s.

Kaniévski may seem an odd choice for a film set in an English public school. It looks suspiciously like Eton of the 1930s but was in fact filmed at Brasenose College but his perspective avoids sentimentality and gives clarity and definition to Julian Mitchell's finely wrought script.

"What fascinates me," says Kaniévski, "is that Bennett turns to Communism not for intellectual reasons, nor for the reasons that his friend Judd [the school's dedicated Communist] advocated, but because something emotional happens to him. The humiliation of the experience is the actual pivot that begins to

make him aware of his homosexuality and it is the bitterness of that humiliation which makes him turn. Bennett is such an extraordinarily rich, intelligent, impulsive character — full of contradiction — and he ends up in Moscow for emotional reasons. His dreams are not going to be fulfilled. He's not going to become a god (a superman) and it's going to affect the rest of his life."

Getting the atmosphere and the attitudes of a public school right was not an easy matter, but Kaniévski was undaunted. "I can never pretend to recreate completely what life is like in a public school. But I can reproduce the elements, this thing where you get boys of 16, 17, 18 desperate for power, desperate to become prefects, desperate to become gods. Their whole lives, their imaginative years, have been of aspiration for power. And then you wonder why government is the way it is. I went down to Eton at the beginning of the year and just spoke to lads in the street and there was an obsession about who was going to get where and who was going to be what captain, who was going to get into the hierarchy of the school. There was all this longing and desperation."

The homosexuality was a different sort of problem. On stage there was a great deal of campiness. Sex was played for laughs and Bennett's lover Harcourt never appears. The film, though, focuses on the relationship. It is helped in no small measure by Mitchell's script, which has been

opened up to include background elements which give the film a strong central structure. For the theatrical laughs, he has substituted wit and an internal humour that works like a bass-relief against the serious context of the film.

Rupert Everett, who originated the role of Guy Bennett on stage, comes up with a performance that is at once passionately persuasive and subtly effective. "Rupert's performance on stage manipulated the audience brilliantly, which was exactly right for the West End," says Kaniévski, "but I thought, Christ, that will be a nightmare on film. But Rupert was wonderful. As long as you have a strong sense of exactly what you need from him, you get it."

"Every actor needs to be handled in a different way. It's just finding the key that will unlock whatever they can bring on to the screen. And there are no rules. With some of them I had to be incredibly tough and kick, with Rupert I just had to be very open, generous, observant. With Colin Firth, who plays Judd, it was different. I had to be very hard. He was convinced he was not working, he was doing nothing at all, he was wasting time, there was no character there and that all that would come across would be this cardboard cut-out. For six weeks I could feel him turning up just hating the whole process and I would say to him just do one the way I want. And of course he comes across wonderfully on screen."

Kaniévski, now 32, grew up in Battersea very much a part of his parents' Polish expatriate community. He knew by the time he was 11 what he wanted to do. "My parents took me to see a Polish dance group and they completely captured my imagination in mood and atmosphere and the sort of extraordinary magic that was created on stage. I thought at that point that I wanted something to do with creating illusion. A year later I saw a David Lean film and I thought, this is it, I must try to make films."

He left school at 15, with not a very good education, and became a stage hand in the theatre for a few years. He left theatre for television and again started at the bottom and worked his way up. "It's difficult getting in without what is classified as a standard education," he says. Eventually he directed soaps and serials and finally came to critical attention when the producer Margaret Matheson asked him to direct *Muck and Brass* for Central Television.

An enthusiastic, sceptical man with a contagious laugh and an energy level that hovers at boiling point, Kaniévski is pleased with the reception *Another Country* received at Cannes, but he is taking with a grain of salt the "Mickey Mouse offers" that are suddenly coming his way. "I don't want to live in history. I want my first three films to be all completely different."



Kaniévski: "I don't want to live in history..."

Bath Festival

Endymion Ensemble Pump Room

The Georgian Pump Room at Bath is no doubt used to more delicate entertainments than that which assailed it on Monday night: a late-evening programme for which the Endymion Ensemble had brought choice items from their London series marking Harrison Birtwistle's fiftieth birthday, and had added to them a new production of his savage ritual play *Down by the Greenwood Side*. But, if the sum of the comfortableness of the surroundings accentuated what is fierce and caustic in Birtwistle's music, the performances were such as to make beauty come out of the fire.

This was so most particularly in *Monody for Corpus Christi*, which Jane Ginsborg sang as if here was something of desperate importance to be said, with only one way of saying it in long jagged lines, murmured with responsive power. Birtwistle's arrangement of the Machaut *Hoquetus* will never seem other than a single from his nearness at the time to Peter Maxwell Davies; but other influences were more suitably marked in a neatly-judged account of Stravinsky's clarinet pieces from David Fuest and a forward, incisive performance of Varèse's *Océanade*.

After this *Down by the Greenwood Side* was a potent reminder of what is not only one of Birtwistle's strongest pieces but also a rare survivor from the Sixties vogue for music-theatre. The idea of interweaving the musicians' play of St George and Bold Street with a poignantly phrased setting for solo soprano of a folk ballad of child murder might sound contrived, but Birtwistle's rowdy music, at once rough and keen, welds the piece together and draws attention through its repetitiveness to the way both stories function as myths of the seasons.

David Penn's production, with magnificent costumes by David Blight, got the right mix of ancient and modern with its melange of punk and Morris. Boy George and Wurlz Gummidge. Exuberantly acted, sung, fought and danced, it deserves to be seen more widely.

Paul Griffiths

Concerts

Winning wispieness

Sinfonietta/Ziegler Wignore Hall

There are debut recitals and debut recitals; modest affairs, typical happenings, exciting discoveries and gratuitous self-indulgences. But this was a classic example of the form. At enormous expense (presumably his own, with the assistance of the British Fulbright Scholars' Association), the American oboist David Rowland brought the London Sinfonietta, plus distinguished singer and conductor, to the Wignore Hall to present an evening of five obnoxious works, including (magic bait for the critics) two British premieres.

It was a bold notion, and we had the right to expect something special. And indeed David Rowland is a highly accomplished albeit somewhat unconventional oboist. He plays his instrument with exceptional freedom, which is to say that it waves about in front of him moving from side to side in a way I have never seen any other oboist achieve. The flexibility gives his playing a certain suppleness — it is as if the sound floated out of a blade of grass plucked from the ground.

But, if that makes it sound wispy, then that would be accurate. If it makes it sound lacking in real focus and

concentration, that would be accurate too. In the musings of Vaughan Williams's pleasant 1948 Concerto, one can feel the elusive dreaminess of Rowland's playing to be apt. And in Samuel Barber's *Concerto*, too, with its lusciously unoriginal sweetness, Rowland made a sweet, sometimes uneven sound which only failed to carry over the heavily sustained strings. Handel's G minor Concerto, busily over-decorated, was at least sharper.

An evening of rather self-conscious wispieness, even when projected with Rowland's winning confidence, can get a bit much, however. And when he chooses two such sterling examples of the art of his native land as Ned Rorem's song-cycle *After Long Silence* and Lukas Foss's Oboe Concerto, one is forced to wonder about his taste.

Linda Hirst, who stepped in for Felicity Palmer and brought her very considerable artistry to bear on the Rorem settings — fatuous powdered-milk ditties which left their superb poetry quite untouched — had my sympathy. But the bathetic neo-classicism of the Foss — a 1948 *Pulcinella* without the jokes, the skill or the substance — although zappily played under Robert Ziegler's direction, set my teeth on edge.

Nicholas Kenyon

Joaquin Achucarro St John's/Radio 3

When Elisabeth Leonskaja became ill towards the end of last week, and had to withdraw from the BBC's lunchtime concert on Monday, her place was taken by Joaquin Achucarro from Spain. He brought a different programme, to be repeated on Radio 3 next Sunday, which began with a sonorous effective performance of Bach's Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C major (BWV 564) in the arrangement by Busoni.

Its origin as a work for organ could always be discerned in the pianist's sturdy passage-work and deliberate phrasing, as if he were building a musical edifice to give a sense of grandeur as well as elegant feeling. Added to the equal temperament of its harmonic bases was an equable sensibility in the shaping of its three movements, from the improvisatory Toccata to a disciplined final Fugue in which argument was put before virtuoso display.

There was a similar seriousness of approach to the three

Intermezzi, Op 117, by Brahms, which always gain interest in relation to each other when played as a group. Perhaps there was too much specific melody imposed on the second of them when this should only be limited, but the beginning simplicity and the first water-melody, and the ballad-like quality the pianist brought to the darker tones of the last, ensured a vividness that made more than a passing diversion.

Chopin's B minor Sonata, Op 38, was distinguished by a sense of musical proportion brought to the performance from the outset, and by the way in which the plaintively lyrical second theme had acquired a contrasting confidence by the time it came back towards the end of the first movement. Thereafter the performance seemed concerned not to be too assertive.

Even the fast passages of the second movement and the fleet-footed scales in the finale had a measured thoughtfulness that also made the tenderly phrased slow movement a particular pleasure.

Noël Goodwin

Television

Gangland's gruesome glamour

The programme, produced by Clive Syddall, was more impressive by the sensation of it all, the categories, the rituals and the violence about the causes. It nodded, briefly at unemployment — one in two black youths is unemployed, one in three Chicanos — which does not really explain it at all. Fewer things and more analysis might have made the conclusion that the American way of life embodies an unacceptable degree of violence more resistible.

Dennis Hackett

Yorkshire's First Tuesday, by contrast, was compassionate, dealing first with a 17-year-old boy, Stephen Brown, handicapped because his mother contracted rubella during pregnancy. Stephen, whose father has cared for him single-handedly for four years, is at present with a special unit at the law, finding sanctuary in the United States. Like the first half, it was encouraging in its humanity. Sensation is not everything.

The second part, *Safe House*, told how refugees from Latin America are, with the aid of church groups willing to defy the law, finding sanctuary in the United States. Like the first half, it was encouraging in its humanity. Sensation is not everything.

Dennis Hackett

This year's York Mystery Plays, centrepiece of the city's 1984 festival, begin on Friday in a new production by the American-based Toby Robertson: Anthony Masters reports

Teaching the beauty of words

Did the Virgin Mary have the benefit of midwifery? The York Mystery Plays, with typical confidence, assume that she did: the Nativity stage direction is quite explicit. "Maria, Joseph, obsequia..." Like a medieval cathedral with its mass of detail, this huge text (15 hours) playing time if (much) constantly yields unnoticed touches of sharp imagination. For Toby Robertson, whose new production opens on Friday as the centrepiece of the 1984 York Festival, the beauty and intricacy of the language is what he specially seeks to reveal.

With — apart from Jesus (Simon Ward) — an amateur cast in an open-air setting, there are potential audibility problems. There always were, because the surviving bays of the ruined St Mary's Abbey have naturally defined the playing area — too large a one, in Robertson's view. This time the audience's raked seats will form a semicircle of the sort from the smaller stage. Franco Colavocchia, known for his opera work in New York, has designed a circular platform only 30 feet wide, with heavenly levels above and grated trapdoors like mad. Malvolio's which lead down to an infernal basement.

Robertson would have liked to stick closer to the medieval staging, when each of the 49 guilds mounted their own episode of the story from the Creation to the Last Judgment, and toured through the streets all day playing on special floats or carts. "What I'd have preferred is to have it dotted all round the abbey, all over the Museum Gardens — instead of moving the carts we could have moved the audience. But too many of the audience would be

faithful old ladies, too old to move. "The design of the carts is still something of a mystery, but we know they had backcloths — I suspect that, when they stopped in the streets to play, they didn't play in the round but up against a wall... and that, like these Spanish carts Leslie Hotson describes in *Shakespeare's Wooden O*, they had deep bottoms like the hold of a ship, for trapdoors and smoke and so on. Thus the visual concept, instead of spreading all the locations widely apart on the flat, is vertical, like the theological hierarchy of the plays."

In this more intimate setting Robertson hopes that more of the lyrical, sometimes sublimely simple, sometimes raw and brutal language will be heard and enjoyed, and that the proudly declamatory approach can be avoided. His speech affectionately of his amateur players, mostly female (a perennial feature of amateur drama), with only three hours an evening to rehearse: "One has to be a mixture of scoutmaster, director, teacher (especially that) and nanny..."

These few weeks have been really just a busman's holiday from his work schedule in America: Shakespeare workshops at New York's Circle Rep, and now *The Barber of Seville* for Beverly Hills and Smetana's *The Kiss* for City Opera.

In Britain, where he has not directed for four years, his reputation rests on the great days of Prospect and the Cambridge Theatre Company in the late Sixties and Seventies, notably the Ian McKellen *Edward II*, the long-lived *Twelfth Night* set in a Byronic Illyria and the outrageous

Pericles with Derek Jacobi as its still centre.

Elizabethan drama, of course, comes hot on the heels of the mystery-play tradition. The York cycles ceased only in 1560, and within a few years London's first theatres opened. "I wonder," says Robertson, "how often these plays are seen as the actual genesis of English secular drama that they are." He adds that some of the riots of wordplay and alliteration (like the *Stabreim* in Wagnerian librettos) could have come straight out of *Love's Labour's Lost*.

This is what every interpretation has to start from: the text. That is your rock — and he goes on to speak of some recent classic productions with pained bewilderment.

After centuries of obscurity, the plays were finally revived in 1951, in a version by Canon J. S. Purvis that forms the basis for the 1984 text. Since only about a fifth of the full text can be used, directors have not only omitted whole episodes but condensed those that remain.

"I think this is a pity; the proportions go awry. Some of the superb long speeches, like St Thomas the Apostle's sermon in the *Wonders of Woodstock* Play, have never been heard entire. They are beautifully constructed, like operatic arias. What I've done is to use fewer plays, but a fuller text of each. I've also chosen several plays not seen in twentieth-century revivals: the *Harmakers* Play of the *Confession* with the song of Simeon, the *Spuerius* Play of the young Jesus among the doctors in the Temple, and the *Doctor* (he may be a sixteenth-century addition) who speaks a long prologue to the *Spicers* Play and whom I use chorically.

"I would dearly love to do the whole cycle, perhaps in two parts on two evenings as the National did. But people don't like the idea of seeing any of it without the Crucifixion. That's always been the big visual moment of the production. Night has come down by that time — of course one has to direct the early scenes, in daylight, in quite a different way because the whole stage is wide open and can't be confined by stage lighting — and it's staged very beautifully. Every-one feels very comforted by it, almost; there's the central image, they know where they are."

"But of course it's the *Resurrection* that's important; that's what took everybody by surprise. I'm keeping my dramatic tricks for the end of the play, which isn't easy — like the last acts of *Antony and Cleopatra* and *The Duchess of Malfi*, the leading character has already gone."



Toby Robertson reveals his set

Theatre

Victorian fugitives

The Merry Wives of Windsor Regent's Park

"Let the sky rain potatoes!" cries Falstaff in Windsor Forest, desperate for aphrodisiacs on being confronted by both mistresses at once. For most of the evening it had rained almost everything else, summer (as Lamb said) having set in with its usual severity. But, though at times sticking it out seemed like an ordeal for cast and audience, the finale's magic triumphed over the drizzle.

David Conville's production is japhisly set in Victoria's Windsor and seemingly peopled by fugitives from early *Punch* cartoons. The endearing Justice Shallow (James Cairncross) "turns again towards childish treble" neatly accoutred in gaiters and a shooting-stick. Every inch the blond twit-about-town, Ronald Fraser's Falstaff, strangely resembling a corpulent Verdi, is a magnificent plus-foured dandy with a weakness for whist and porter, a plum waistcoat dignifying his girth, a trio of ragged Crimean veterans and a cigar-smoking Oliver Twist at his heels.

Apart from the notorious loose ends in plotting and dialogue is added to sort out the abortive "horses" episode there is some dense comic writing to

get through, and this theatre does not favour rapid pace even on a fine day. While impeccable in appearance, Mr Fraser suffered early on from a thick delivery that suggested his famous halfpenny worth of bread was still in his cheek, and the flirtation scenes were overplayed, but he rose beautifully to pathetic, useful dignity for the humiliation at Home's Oak.

Warmly partnered by Philippa Gail, Kate O'Mara gives Mistress Ford the style and inausciousness of Restoration comedy. Dora Bryan, as Mistress Quickly, cheerfully copes with a foppish Caius (Paul Raffield) sporting a Clouseau accent and makes a grandly suburban Queen of the Fairies.

This comfortable bourgeois million suits Ford down to the ground, but apart from one glorious gag, spearing the basket and blasting it with a shotgun before finding it empty of Falstaff, Berwick Kaler never becomes truly comic or tragic. Nor (not surprisingly in these genial surroundings) is much made of almost everyone's snobbery and avarice with one interesting exception. Throwing off references to his wild behaviour and tipping banknotes in all directions, Fenton (Richard E. Grant) is a palpable cad and Ann's story, just beginning, may not be as pleasant as her mother's.

Anthony Masters

Pop music

O.M.D.

Hammersmith Odeon

When Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark first came to notice six years ago their combination of electronics and fast, post-punk-inspired pop was still a fairly novel commodity. A duo, Andy McCluskey and Paul Humphreys, they recorded for the Factory label as contemporaries of Joy Division, and could have followed the latter's lead by becoming cult heroes.

Instead, O.M.D., as they are now known, expanded their horizons from homemade synth, a single drum and bass and gazed upon chart success. Their debut single, "Electricity", set the style for this energetic group. In their songs the catchphrase is all, and rhythms are chop-logged, often slavishly emulating the dreaded 12-inch mix.

Now the O.M.D. have added a second bank of synths, a drummer and shrill brass to give some counterpoint to their material the limited scope of their music remains inescapable. Its focal point is McCluskey's spirited prancing, which helps to distract the mind from the numbing repetition of their melodies and an otherwise total absence of visual stimulation.

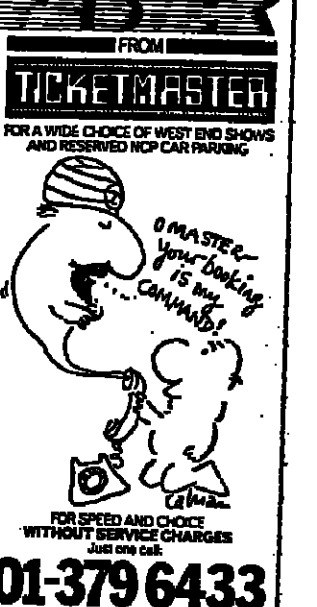
The trouble with bands like O.M.D. is that their act is not well suited to live reproduction. They play as if to a television audience, preferring overstated gestures to much subtlety of mood. Some songs — "Joan of Arc", "Maid of New Orleans" or the melodramatic "Soviet" — distill what they do best and put a release on their over-the-top drive. Mostly, they are happiest celebrating dance-floor abandon while lacking the soul to elevate a simple bash like "White Trash" beyond an over-amplified approximation of a cigarette advert.

Max Bell

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Criterion Theatre

SPECTRUM

Angus McBean, now and then

Britain's greatest theatrical photographer is 80 on Friday. Adrian Woodhouse and Geoffrey Watkins report on the intriguing past and present master

Angus McBean has come back to life. Sixteen years ago, his current blizzard of activity in London, Paris and Suffolk would scarcely have seemed possible. Then the great theatrical photographer had given up his art after a major operation. He had abandoned his London studio and withdrawn to the extraordinary medieval-Elizabethan fantasy house he was creating for himself in Suffolk.

In 1968, after all, the glossy perfection of Angus McBean's ever-beautiful people and the artifice of his choice, single shots, elaborate sets, multiple exposures and intricate photo-montage was considered old hat beside the grainy, scatter-shooting "realism" of a Snowdon or a David Bailey.

There was still, at the age of 65, plenty for McBean the master craftsman to do. All his life he had been making designs for living, from the silvered "artistic" house that he created as a teenager in South Wales to his Regency chic in Georgian Islington which he first colonized in 1950.

In the 1930s he first came to fame as a modeller of theatrical masks and maker of scenery. In the 1950s he redesigned the Academy Cinema in Oxford Street, London, in a style that can only be described as Second Empire Strikes Back.

So Angus McBean in 1968 quietly set about pollinating Suffolk with his craft. His house, Flemings Hall, grew into a fantasia of panelling, screens and staircases. He restored and "made" antiques. He decorated much of the interior of Hinesham Hall, the gastronomic country seat of restaurateur Robert Carter, to whom he had sold his house in Islington. Occasionally, when friends begged him, he took photographs.

Then, a few years ago, the cycle of fame, rejection and reappraisal turned another 180°. Another generation, hungry for glamour and artifice and more consciously romantic, discovered Angus McBean for itself.

Almost overnight Flemings Hall became a place of pilgrimage and Angus McBean became a set text in every British school of photography. His pictures are now on semi-permanent exhibition around the country and in Europe, and scarcely a week seems to pass without his images appearing in some new publication. The man himself, professing himself "simply astonished" by the revival of interest, tirelessly travels about to deliver lectures and appear on television. Last year he also went back to work.

It was the French couture magazine *L'Officiel* in Paris who



The McBean style: fashion for French *Vogue* earlier this year, and a 1938 surrealist portrait of Penelope Dudley Ward, published in *The Daily Sketch*



commissioned McBean to produce 16 pages of colour surrealist fashion photographs. They appeared to much ballyhoo in France last autumn. This spring he took another series of "theatrical" fashion photographs for French *Vogue*. These are on show for the first time in this country in McBean's 80th birthday exhibition at the Photographers' Gallery in London.

To meet the demands of his new photographic commissions, he is preparing a return to London. Shortly he will be sharing a fifth-floor studio in Southwark with young photographer Mike Owen.

He has a disarming explanation for his current renaissance. "I'm an ancient monument now and part of the romantic movement is a preoccupation with age," he laughs. "No, I think the point is that photography is something which everybody can do now, technically. Photorealism, for example is something which is very easy. So because

anybody can do it, people want a bit more again. My pictures offer a bit more. The surrealism is very lighthearted, but it brings quite a different approach to fashion photography, for example.

"The important thing now is not how good a photographer you are, but how good your eye to see what should be in the picture. I have never considered photography to be an art - how can anything that is just a mechanical process be an art? But what goes into a photograph may be an art."

The McBean way of taking a photograph is still largely unaltered in the face of the technical changes. The black velvet cloth to cover his head was once the cloak for Peter O'Toole's *Hamlet* at the Old Vic. "My camera is still my old Sinar monorail on a tripod with 5"x4" plates. I changed to this size when the old half plates became too expensive and of course now the plates are film, not glass. My lights

are all my old lights, they're not made any more but I was able years ago to buy up a whole store of the bulbs. Film speeds have changed completely in the last 20 years and I never used to use an exposure meter, nor have learned to use one since. I have a young photographer as an assistant who reads the meter."

"Black and white printing paper of the quality that I used to use now doesn't exist. Modern black and white prints are very cold, the warm, rich flesh tones that I used to get are just no longer there. That is why I now like working in colour."

"French *Vogue* have indicated that they would like me to go back to do two more sessions for them, including a series of surreal pictures, out of doors, which will be rather unusual. I've already made my Christmas card for this year, playing on the fact that I'm 80. It's very easy to become 80, you know. You've only got to sit still and it happens. It's no real achievement."

1948: Geoffrey Watkins, young and out of work, rings a doorbell and meets an artist.

The blow-up of Mae West in a glass frame outside a four-story house in seedy Endell Street, London, caught my eye. I was glad to pause as I was half way between Fleet Street, where I had failed to find work and Soho where I had been promised a job printing contacts.

I was an RAF photographer trying to break into journalism. Angus McBean, the photograph proclaimed in large letters. The name meant nothing to me, but the portrait was arresting and imaginative and I thought I wouldn't mind working for a man who could use a camera as a great artist uses his brushes and colours. I rang the bell. The door opened and I came face to face with a bearded man who might have been a pirate.

I was aware of tremendous energy as he glared at me. I asked

him - feeling not a little intimidated - if he had any jobs going. "Come in," he growled, and I followed him.

"You are Welsh", he said. I nodded, reluctant to say much in case I jeopardized my chances. "So am I", he said.

He told me that he was a theatrical photographer. The prospects seemed attractive and romantic. "I don't really have a vacancy," he said, "but if my mother likes you, you can work here. This is what I want you to do. Cherry (his mother) is coming up from Wales this afternoon. I want you to take a taxi and go to meet her. If you get on you can start on Monday."

Angus was a demanding man, setting high standards. He wanted things done at once and was impatient if they were not. But he was never unfair. I never met such a man for utilizing time; his hands were tools, engaged in retouching, carpentry, running something up on a sewing machine, or whatever

needed doing in the house.

The house, too, was remarkable. On the ground floor was the studio. As you entered the door the first thing that caught your eye was a marionette of Mae West under domed glass. She and so many other Hollywood stars had trod the boards in this studio, no larger than a medium-sized bathroom.

The bare beams in the roof supported the huge backgrounds that slid down into the vertical position by pulleys. In the middle of the floor was his large Adams Reflex camera with its stand. A coil of rope lay in one corner, a sculptured head in another, a small mound of sand and a pile of leather-bound books.

The room above could not have been more different: a place of comfort and for relaxation. The walls were painted to resemble ad-veined marble, two gilt pillars supported an arch on either side of which were alcoves holding old English china and Dresden figurines.

The adjoining room was like something from Salvador Dali, whom Angus greatly admired. The ceiling was painted to give the effect of looking up through a wooden trellis into a blue sky. There were murals of crumbling ruins and a gilt-framed picture which appeared to be dripping with damp.

On the floor above was his bedroom and a delightful sitting room with a quaint country charm. Shelves filled one wall and held the dozens of old English mugs he collected. Other walls held bookshelves filled with volumes.

Angus stood out even in bohemian company. He wore homespun sweats, the rousers, cut sailor-fashion with deep pockets into which he thrust his hands.

Like Alfred Hitchcock, with whom I also worked, he was forever asking questions and wanting to know answers. He could observe things as sharply as D H Lawrence and he had a positive, uplifting response to life, if sometimes exhausting for the rest of us.

The famous and the rich came down that narrow corridor. I can still recall the thrill when Laurence Olivier brought Yolande Donlan, enveloped in a white fox fur (I don't think Angus liked that) to the studio, and when I cavedropped on Olivier talking to Tyrone Guthrie on the telephone.

I used to help Angus to set up the tiny studio and then I left him. When I saw the first prints I used to be amazed that such imaginative work could be done in such a small space. Sometimes when principal opera singers came to the studio the photographs seemed to have been taken in a great opera house.

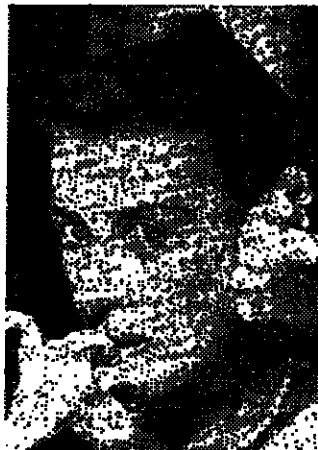
Angus had many disappointments and many setbacks, but nothing got him down for long. His marriage was not a success and he and his wife parted, thousands of his irreplaceable half plate negatives were destroyed in the blitz, and he made some enemies because of his outspokenness, but he never spoke ill of them.

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Fantastic faces: Beatrice Lillie, Lady Peel, published in the *Tatler* in 1959 when she appeared in "An Evening with Beatrice Lillie", left, and right, a portrait of Alfred Drayton.



Mirror images: Dorothy Dickson, left, in 1939. "I had to flood the glass. Miss Dickson got rather wet". Right, pop man David Sylvian's video based on Flora Robson's portrait.



moreover... Miles Kingston

Would you like to get better quality photographs on your holiday abroad this year? You would? Then leave your camera behind and buy postcards when you get there! There is a real difference between your amateur holiday snaps and the stuff taken by the professional boys who know all the tricks. The professional stuff is smooth, boring and plastic, and your pictures have the electrifying quality of genuine folk art.

So today I'm going to give you a few tips on how to give your foreign footage the real amateur feel. I'm assuming that you already know the basic techniques, like remembering to take the lens cap off and not forgetting the film. This is more advanced stuff, like...

1. Photographing mountains from a distance. You would be surprised how many people try to photograph mountains when they are standing on top of them. All they get, of course, is a few rocks, and rocks are just boring old rocks, whatever the geologists say. So make sure to stand back about 20 miles. To give an even greater illusion of distance, try to get something in the foreground.

2. Identifying people. How many times have you got your holiday snaps back from your Asian chemist and wondered who all these total strangers are standing around in your photograph? This can easily be avoided by getting them all, at the time of exposure, to hold up large placards with their names on. For example, "Consin Madge", "Pepe the Waiter", "My husband", and so on.

3. Getting people to smile. Say in a loud voice: "Okay, I've taken the photo," when you

haven't done anything of the sort. As soon as they know it's all over, people start to relax and smile. Take the photo then.

4. Avoiding the temptation to take photographs out of the aeroplane window. There's only one thing that will ever come out, and that is the aeroplane window. This is because all aeroplane windows have multiple scratches on the outside. Why? Are they the frantic scabbings of late arrivals trying to get in? Are they the marks left by big stones kicked up on rough third world runways? Who knows?

5. Snapping nature that stands still. Nobody has ever taken a good photograph of a bird or an animal on holiday, because they always move. The only things guaranteed not to move are mushrooms, octopus, pooked in their own ink, or avocados with shrimps.

6. Taking a photo of the place you stayed at. If they can't get a good picture of themselves (and they never can), you won't either.

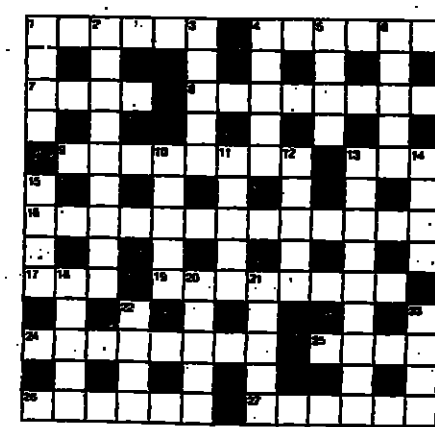
7. Taking a picture of a bull-fight. Never take a picture of a bull-fight. This also applies to processions, the insides of restaurants, donkeys, palm trees and Cousin Madge eating octopus for the first time.

8. Selling your snaps to Fleet Street. When you get back, try to place at least one of your photographs in your local newspaper. You won't get paid much for it, but it does mean you can write off the whole of your trip against tax. To photographic expedition to North Africa, £720.

Good luck. And whatever you do, don't send us your holiday photographs to look at.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 360)

- ACROSS
1 Make secure (6)
4 Detached garage (6)
7 Fervent devotion (4)
8 Insinuation (8)
9 Trouble-maker (8)
13 Without alcohol (5)
16 Incidental part (6,7)
17 Hyde Park gunners (3)
19 Gas-propelled jet (1,1,1)
24 For both genders (8)
25 Gen purposes vehicle (4)
26 Fish hawk (6)
27 Exhilarated (6)



- DOWN
1 Discoconcert (4)
2 Remote Utopia (7,2)
3 Nigerian currency (5)
4 Jargon (5)
5 Head cook (4)
6 Cows' teats (5)

- 10 Topsy (5)
11 Seed potato (5)
12 Last sonata movement (5)
13 Not the same (9)
14 Abominable snowman (4)
15 At a distance (4)
18 Skin follicle growths (5)
20 Loan overcharge (5)
21 Hull sump (5)
22 Equipment (4)
23 Start oil well (4)

SOLUTION TO No 359
ACROSS: 1 Aclack 5 Luge 8 Upend 9 Topknot 11 Sympathy 13 Joke 15 Quincuntery 17 Evil 18 Palpathe 21 Tripped 22 Token 23 Clot 24 Nause
DOWN: 2 Cream 3 Add 4 Kitchen garden 5 Lips 6 Gondola 7 Subsequent 10 Teeny weeny 12 Arcs 14 Keep 16 Initial 19 Baker 20 Spot 22 TNT

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Songs, dance and Makarova magic

Even the relaxed publicity man for the musical, *On Your Toes*, admitted he was in awe of its star, Natalia Makarova. Searching for words to describe her, he came up with the masterly understatement: "Well, she's not one of the chorus kids."

Natalia Makarova, the former Kirov Ballet dancer who defected to the West in 1970, is one of the great ballerinas of the century. Since the 1970s, when she made her home in America, she has rarely been seen here, but when she has danced at Covent Garden, the audience atmosphere has been electric. It is not simply her technical perfection, but the finely-tuned temperament that is able to express the depths of emotion. She is now back with the acting/dancing role of the tempestuous Russian dancer, Vera Vassilievna, in the light-hearted Rodgers and Hart musical, for which she received a Tony Award during its New York run last year. It opens at the Palace Theatre on June 12.

We were shown into Miss Makarova's dressing room by her minder, Dina Makarova - a relation, Natalia smiled good-naturedly for the camera. The other Miss Makarova was worried about the combination of cowboy boots and the satin

Clare Colvin discovers how the former Kirov ballerina is keeping on her toes

applied dressing gown, and produced a pair of high-heeled swansdown slippers for her. Natalia laughed at her, revealing the punishment that a dancer gives her feet.

The photographer left, and the interview began with the second Miss Makarova perched on a chair in front of us to give guidance. Miss Makarova is still not an entirely confident English-speaker.

Jazz dancing is she says, totally different in the use of muscles. The rhythm and syncopation of movement is also different, but she had already danced in a similar genre for George Balanchine, the show's New York choreographer. And as for why she had chosen to appear in a musical - "I did it because Mr Balanchine asked me."

"I was not sure whether I would be able to make it, and it began almost as a game. I had never used my voice on stage before, and had never been an actress. It was difficult at first. When I first appeared in it, my

husband told me that the viols in my throat used to stick out. Once I had trained my voice, it didn't happen any more.

"Now I feel really comfortable on stage both to dance and to act. When I heard the laughter of the public at my intonation, I began to think that maybe I should do some more acting. It is certainly less of a physical strain. In dancing, the demands on your physique are much greater. Everything affects your performance - if you have a corn and cannot put on point shoes, the weather, your mood, what you eat, what you read."

She has a barre in the dressing room for pre-show practice, and works for two and a half hours on both the voice and body before the evening performance. She also has an hour's class in the morning. She does not spend as much time as she would like with her six-year-old son, Andrei, whom she calls "Andrushka".

Her great sadness is that Andrei will never see his grandparents. When she left the Kirov Ballet in September, 1970, at 29 years old, during its London tour and sought political asylum, she was aware that she might never see her family again. The Soviet authorities have never relented. As far as



Dancer supreme: "It is not an ordinary life, it is a special life", protests Natalia Makarova in her London dressing room

they were concerned, she was stepfather and stepbrother in Leningrad once a month, but she has found letters and presents usually do not reach them. She cannot contact her old friends. "It is too dangerous for my friends if I write to them. After so many years, nothing has changed and if anything it is worse. But I believe it will be finished one day..."

She met her husband, Edward Karkar, whose business is electronic telecommunications, in the United States in 1974 and

they married in 1976. He first saw her in San Francisco with the Kirov in 1961. Eight years older than she, he is "quite famous in his own business, and he is interested in art, ballet and music". He is based in San Francisco and they have homes in New York and London. She was married twice in Russia, first to a dancer and then an engineer.

Ask about the difficulty of fitting in a taxing career with her everyday life, and the eyes

flash again. "It is not an ordinary life, it is a special life", she protests. "New York is crazy, you don't have one second to spare, and I am always late, like most Russians". A measure of her social life can be gauged by the names of the godparents of her son - ex-King Constantine of Greece, Jackie Onassis and Rudolf Nureyev.

Plans for the future? She refers to Dina Makarova and asks if it can be mentioned.

Dina says it can, so she tells me that she is probably to dance in *The Blue Angel*, a ballet to be choreographed by Roland Petit for the Berlin Ballet in 1985. She is excited at the thought of dancing the role that Marlene Dietrich created.

A head pops round the door. "It's your half hour call, Miss Makarova". Half an hour? She had not realized it was so late. She leaps to her feet, and as we say goodbye she is already stripping off her dressing gown.

Begone dull mousse

Mashing things up comes so easily to machine-assisted cooks that a leaf of lettuce is sometimes the only recognizable whole ingredient in the length of a buffet table. What has not been pulverized and reformed has very likely been sliced, chopped or crimped. And pretty as it all looks, there is not always a lot left to chew.

Thoughtful or surprising contrasts of texture are every bit as pleasing as felicitous combinations of taste, which brings me to that pillar of summer entertaining, the salmon mousse. Does it really taste of salmon, or is it too creamy, too floppy, too insubstantial to have much to commend it at all?

As a way of recycling leftovers, hot or cold, it is unbeatable, but do not assume that salmon mousse is more economical than plain fish. Marks & Spencer was charging £4.49 per pound for tailpieces last week (culettes were 50p more) while a local fishmonger had whole fish at £2 a pound. These fish were handy weights too at three to four pounds each.

I cooked a four-pounder to serve hot for an easy middle-of-the-working-week dinner party using a foolproof method usually advised for cooking large whole fish to serve cold. It does, however, require a fish-kettle or pan which will hold the fish without too much room to spare.

Cover the cleaned and scaled fish with cold water and add a little salt, a couple of bay leaves and a few slices of lemon. Cover the pan and bring the water to the boil. Immediately reduce the heat and simmer the fish for one minute only then turn off the heat and leave the fish in the hot water for one and a half to two hours. After two hours it will still be hot and it will be perfectly cooked.

Earlier in the week I made a salmon mousse which really tasted of salmon. Pieces of flaked fish added interest to its denser than usual texture, and a spoonful of aniseed flavoured pasta, in this case, Pernod, added interest to the taste. I have completely gone off fancy fish-shaped moulds for this kind of dish and served the mousse straight from a wide white bowl. It went down well as a first course served with freshly made toast, as well as more conventionally with potato and crisp green salads.

THE TIMES COOK

Shona Crawford Poole

- 1 tablespoon paste (optional)
- 150ml (1/4 pint) double cream
- 1 egg white
- Salt and cayenne pepper

Flake the fish and set half of it aside. Put the remainder in the goblet of a food processor (or use a pestle and mortar). Put half the fish stock (ideally a well-flavoured stock containing a proportion of dry white wine) in a small pan and sprinkle the gelatine over it. Leave it to swell and soften, and when it is spongy beat it gently until the gelatine has melted completely. Allow it to cool.

In another small pan boil the remaining fish stock until it is reduced to no more than a couple of tablespoons.

Add the cheese to the fish and process them together to a smooth paste. Add the mayonnaise, gelatine and reduced fish stock. Mix well and stir in the paste if you are using it. Whisk the egg white until it will hold a firm peak, and whip the cream until it is light and will hold floppy peaks. Fold them into the fish mixture and season it with salt and cayenne pepper to taste.

Turn the mousse into a bowl or a wetted mould and leave it in a cool place to set. Sprigs of watercress round the edge of the bowl give the mousse a fresh, summery look.

Fruit mousses, too, can be disappointingly pallid unless a little care is taken with their flavour. One of the best ways of insuring that they are not just sweetened fruit puree to "ripen" for an hour or two, or better still overnight. It is a tactic that works equally well with fruit-based ice creams.

Mango mousse

Serves six to eight

- 2 ripe mangoes
 - Juice of 1 lemon or lime
 - 4 tablespoons rum, pale or dark
 - 110 g (4 oz) golden granulated or demerara sugar
 - 150 ml (1/4 pint) white wine, sweet or dry
 - 2 tablespoons gelatine crystals
 - 1 egg white
 - 150 ml (1/4 pint) double cream or mild tasting creamy yogurt
- Peel the mangoes and cut all the flesh from the large stones. Purée the flesh in a blender or processor, or by passing it through a sieve. Stir in the lemon or lime juice, rum and sugar. Leave the purée to "ripen".
- Put the wine in a small saucepan and sprinkle it with gelatine. When the gelatine is soft and swollen, heat it gently until it dissolves completely. Stir this liquid into the fruit.
- Whisk the egg white to stiff peaks and lightly whip the cream. Fold the meringue and cream or yogurt into the fruit and mix well. Pour the mousse into one large bowl or several individual bowls or glasses and leave it in a cool place to set.

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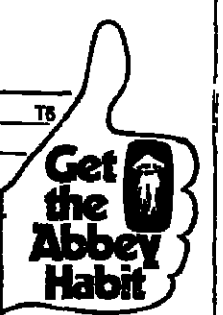
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Hampshire

Patricia Tisdall looks at one of England's largest counties which served as a launch pad for D-Day landings and at the changes which have occurred during the last 40 years

The whole of the Hampshire area was deeply involved in the D-Day landings of 40 years ago today. The county not only supplied the beaches from which the troops were launched, it provided many of the other facilities.

Operation Overlord was planned from Southwick House in the hills overlooking the Royal Navy's base at Portsmouth. Southampton was transformed into a marshalling area and ammunition dump and its port facilities provided the main centre for the gigantic artificial Mulberry harbours.

The millions of troops and supporting staff who contributed to the exercise were billeted all over the county extending deep into the New Forest. At Fareham, a special worker camp had a hatted canteen big enough to feed 1,000 men, the largest of its kind to be erected anywhere by the Ministry of Works. PLUTO (Pipeline Under The Ocean) stations were built on the Isle of Wight to pump fuel across the channel for the invasion vehicles.

Leafy lanes

Defence activities have been as integral a part of Hampshire's development as has its sheep and dairy farms. The army has had its main home at Aldershot, in the north east corner of the county for over a century. The Royal Navy has been established at Portsmouth since Henry VIII built the dockyard there and the Spitfire fighter plane which played such a vital part in the various stages of the war was first developed and manufactured at Southampton.

After the war, defence and defence-related operations had a lot to do with accelerating the movement of existing industries into electronic and micro-processor technology and with encouraging newcomers to join them.

Companies like Decca, Marconi and Plessey all developed

in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight area mainly because of high technology defence contracts. The British Hovercraft Corporation, the largest private sector employer in the Isle of Wight, has direct links with the fighting flying boats developed in the same yard at Cowes by Saunders Roe.

IBM, the world's largest computer company, has had a base in Hampshire - at Hursley Manor near Winchester - since 1958. A manufacturing complex was initially located at Milbrook in Southampton in 1966 and later transferred to Havant. Extensive training facilities are maintained at Basingstoke and in 1967 the company transferred its UK headquarters to Cosham near Portsmouth.



The result has been an odd mixture of the bucolic and the highly mobile, high-tech executives often living side by side in the same village.

Parts of Hampshire are very pretty. There are scores of villages hamlets and farms along leafy lanes which criss-cross the main arterial routes. To the east is the New Forest, a major tourist attraction in its own right, leading to Bournemouth just over the Dorset border. To the south the Isle of Wight is a popular holiday destination for more than a million people a year.

With a population of almost 1.5 million and covering an area of 1,500 square miles, Hampshire is one of the largest counties in England. While almost every type of industry is represented in the county, more than 30 per cent of manufacturing activities involve electronic and electronic engineering - more than 50 per cent of the workforce are in the skilled, professional and managerial categories.

Biggest area of new development is in the south of the region. Although a great deal of progress has been made in the last 10 years the economies of both Southampton and Portsmouth, the two largest population centres, are still in transition. Southampton is searching for new activities to replace employment and occupy vacant space in its huge dockland area while Portsmouth is seeking to lessen its dependence on the Royal Navy.

The two cities are connected by the M27 motorway and developments are in progress which will eventually link up the sub-centres of Eastleigh, Gosport, Fareham and Havant.

The term "Solent City" is creeping back into the planners' vocabulary to describe the coastal ribbon of new development which connects the two main established cities.

Removal of constraints on office development and more sympathetic treatment of planning applications for research, development and high technology manufacturing activities is already showing signs of providing such an impetus.

Revised plan

Already, Fareham on the western borders of Portsmouth is the third biggest shopping centre.

Work is to start this year on the construction of a "campus style business park" on 230 acres on the Southampton side of Fareham, while close by at Kites Cross three miles west of Fareham outline planning consent has been granted for a "prestige campus site" which could involve 250,000 sq ft of offices.

A revised county council structure plan for south Hampshire expected to be approved by late next year also recommends that greater use should be made of vacant sites in existing built up-areas and for full use to be made of any surplus land released by the Ministry of Defence, British Rail and similar organizations.



HMS Victory, Nelson's flagship at the battle of Trafalgar and now winning tourists for Portsmouth

various naval establishments and firing ranges which separate Gosport and the neighbouring Lee-on-the-Solent holiday resort from the M27.

An expansion in Gosport Borough Council activities which has taken place since the 1981 Defence Review has brought a considerably more positive attitude to business and tourist development initiatives. New measures include a commitment from the county council to spend £11m over the next five years in improving road access. New town centre projects include a £1.5m hotel, a leisure complex, a 300-bed marina and a tourist information centre.

Numbers employed directly at the naval dockyard have been halved in the last few years, contributing to an unemployment level which is considerably higher than the national average. However, it is estimated that defence establishments and defence-related industries around the city still provide employment for almost 30,000 people. While this is less than half the 100,000 working population who live within the city area, and considerably less than the 200,000 working population who commute regularly from surrounding areas, the Navy still provides a lot of employment.

Portsmouth was extensively bombed during the war, and during the reconstruction several new industrial estates were created. Largest of these was the old airport site now renamed "Anchorage Park" where an additional 10-acre site has recently been made available for development.

This has attracted companies such as Marconi Space and Defence which employs 5,000 staff. Thorn-EMI and Vespertecroft.

A breakthrough was made in the early 1970s with the reclamation from the sea of 450 acres of land in the north west corner. That provided the site for IBM to construct a massive but carefully landscaped building which forms its British headquarters and is one of the largest office complexes in the south of England.

Land reclaimed from the sea also enabled the extension of the M27 into the city centre and formed a site for the construction of a new Continental ferry port which opened in 1976. From here ferries to France and the Channel Islands convey more than 200,000 vehicles and one million passengers a year to France and the Channel Islands. Dock-related industry serving the ferry and commercial ports is growing rapidly.

More than ever a naval town

Portsmouth, affectionately known as Pompey by sailors all over the world, has been Britain's foremost naval base since the Middle Ages. The port was used by the Crusaders centuries before Henry VIII established the dockyard. The D-Day Allied Expeditionary force, remembered as the largest invasion force ever launched, was masterminded from Southwick House on the northern outskirts of the city.

The Royal Navy is still by far the dominant influence on the city which, with a population of 175,380, is the area's second largest, next to Southampton. Visible relics range from a submarine graveyard at the north-west entrance to HMS Victory which was Admiral Lord Nelson's flagship at the battle of Trafalgar just inside the narrow harbour entrance. The harbour itself is crowded with grey painted battleships.

Strenuous attempts have been made with some success to wean the city from economic dependence on the Navy. But in promotional terms the authorities have made a virtue out of necessity. Portsmouth and Southsea, its associated seaside resort, have been declared a defence and maritime heritage centre and a growing tourist

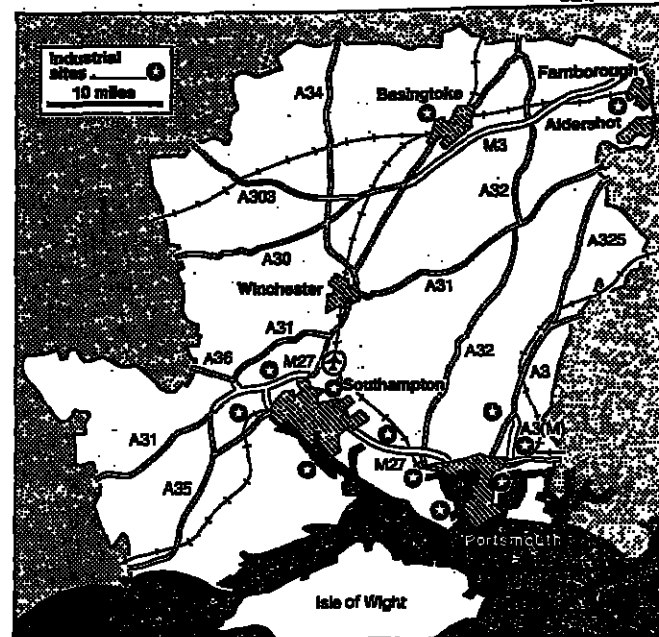
industry is being built on the naval associations.

Part of the dockyard has been designated as an outstanding conservation area, containing examples of eighteenth century stonehouses, the first dry dock ever built, a naval academy and a church. The centrepiece is HMS Victory, which already attracts nearly 500,000 visitors a year. This has been joined by the Mary Rose, the Tudor warship which sank off Spithead in 1545 and whose salvage in 1982 was extensively televised.

There are plans for HMS Warrior, the first iron-clad, and a third unique warship to be restored and berthed nearby in 1986/87. Portsmouth will then have what its authorities claim will be the finest collection of historic ships in the world.

There are also a number of museums in the area which display a wealth of detail about ships and shipboard life through several hundred years of naval history. The Royal Naval Museum in the dockyard opens a new gallery this year which includes a special section on the Falklands campaign. The Royal Marines Museum at Eastney Barracks presents their history from 1664 to the present day.

Latest addition is a new D-Day museum at Southsea



Hampshire today: the biggest area of new development is in the south of the county

Castle. This includes a reconstruction of the Bayeux Tapestry, but with an overall length of 272 feet it is 41 feet longer than the eleventh-century version.

Alongside the museum is a purpose-built gallery which houses the Overlord Embroidery, a magnificent work of art which took 20 craftsmen five years to complete. The embroidery depicts the Allied invasion in all its aspects on 34 panels each eight feet long. It was commissioned in 1968 by Lord Dulverton, as a modern

counterpart to the Bayeux Tapestry, but with an overall length of 272 feet it is 41 feet longer than the eleventh-century version. At Gosport, which is located on a peninsula facing the western side of Portsmouth harbour, is the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at HMS Alliance. Gosport can be reached either by a four-minute ferry service which runs across the harbour from Portsmouth, or by a road which meanders for eight miles or so through

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The Hampshire File

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Section of the 272ft Overlord tapestry which commemorates the Allied landings at Normandy. It is the focal point of the new D-Day museum at Southsea

A port with fighting spirit

Southampton, the largest city in the Hampshire area, was internationally known as England's main passenger port before the age of air transport. Yet its sheltered waters and "double tide" which allows access to ships virtually around the clock, are still valued by the world's largest vessels. Cargoes are carried to and from destinations in North America, the Middle and Far East as well as to the European continent. The QE2 maintains a regular programme of world cruises while the Canberra flies to and from Australia.

The whole of the Southampton area one vast camp

Southampton also serves the rest of Hampshire as a center for higher education with a university which has a national reputation for its courses in electronics, engineering and other applied sciences. Unlike the port the university has expanded in postwar years from an undergraduate total of about 1,000 students in 1952 to a

current population of 5,000 undergraduates and 1,000 postgraduates. Both the port and the university are involved with new developments which were entirely unforeseen during the hectic days of 1944 when the city was saturated with the D-Day invasion forces.

which the bulk of the invasion forces were moved towards the coast. As D-Day approached, all the roads into the town and every lane and by-road were crowded with guns, tanks, Jeeps and other vehicles. When Vera Brittain visited her holiday cottage in the New Forest in March 1944 she noted: "At every turn of every glade we found wagons and ammunition dumps, vainly sought by Nazi observers".

Before April 1944 ended, the whole of the Southampton area had become one vast camp, ammunition dump and airfield. The common in the centre of the city was turned into a sea of canvas. Warehouses, schools and even some of the banks were requisitioned as sleeping quarters for the troops which poured into the city. Pressure on accommodation was made all the more severe by extensive blitz damage.

Between June 19, 1940 and July 15, 1944 Southampton was raided 57 times, 936 properties were totally destroyed and 2653 so badly damaged that they had to be demolished. Most of the centre of the city was flattened by bombs in 1940. The Vickers-Supermarine Aviation Works at Woolston which had produced the prototype of the Spitfire in 1936 was also destroyed.

Rehousing was the first priority of the postwar reconstruction programme: about a third of the prewar population of 181,000 had left either through recruitment for the forces or through evacuation. Two particular landmarks were the opening in 1966 of the Queen Elizabeth II terminal for passenger ships and the opening in 1951 of a huge Esso petroleum refinery at Fawley on

the other side of Southampton Water from the city.

Together with the enlargement and modernisation at about the same time of the Shell-Mex and BP oil distribution centre at Hamble, which also involved the delivery of large tanker shipments of oil, the Fawley refinery made Southampton one of the major tanker ports of the country.

The refinery in turn attracted new and related industries such

An experimental Freeport opens this summer

as the production of synthetic rubber and plastics. It also contributed to the decision to make Marchwood the first electricity power generating station in the country which could be fuelled either by coal or oil. There was in addition, an influx of what were termed "light industries" at this time.

Employment generated by new industries however did not keep pace with the reductions caused by the sharp drop in passenger transport by sea and by new methods of handling cargo. Employment for dockers

and ship-repairers had always been irregular. Many of the great liners were available for repairs and refits only during winter and work was consequently seasonal and industrial relations poor.

By the early 1980s it had become brutally apparent that new measures were needed to secure the long term economic base of the city. A spate of new industrial and office sites has been released not just in Southampton but also along motorway link with Portsmouth. The development which will have the most intimate effect on the city are four large-scale projects involving redevelopment of the huge docks, quays and terminals which extend for more than four miles along the waterfront.

The most imminent of these is the Freeport which will enable goods to be processed free of customs duties or similar taxes and then reexported. Around 31 acres of land, including 475,000 sq ft of warehousing and factory units, have been allocated to the first stage of Freeport trading which starts operations this summer. If the experiment is successful, a further area of over 700 acres could be made available.

Once a little market town, Basingstoke has been developed into a popular overspill area for companies moving out of London and international companies seeking a European base.

In the north of Hampshire, in an area known by property developers as the "Golden Triangle" formed by the M3 and M4 motorways, it is already only half an hour's motorway drive to Heathrow. The new M25 orbital motorway, due to be completed in 1985, will bring it even closer to the outskirts of London. Property costs, however, are estimated at about a quarter of those charged in the capital.

Basingstoke was an active industrial centre even before the war. A report written in 1939 comments: "The great Thornycroft engineering works fill the streets with a throng of working people twice a day, and indeed it is a busy town".

Thornycroft - and its throng of working people - still exists, but as a division of the Eaton Corporation of America. Another American company with long established roots in the area is Eli Lilly, the pharmaceutical giant which set up its first manufacturing plant outside the United States in Basingstoke in 1939.

The Eli Lilly building prominently christened "The House on the Hill" when it first appeared, also sported a large neon sign. A war-time edition of the *Basingstoke Gazette* records

Shining success of the county's Golden Triangle

that the sign had to be taken down and the building camouflaged in case it acted as a landmark for the enemy.

Early in 1940 the Ministry of Aircraft Production requisitioned the basement and half the ground floor of the building for purposes best known to itself, while engineers at Thornycroft set up a mini-factory to make aircraft instruments.

Other companies who have established roots in the area include Kelvin, Bottomley and Baird which later became part of Smiths Industries and Lansing Bagnall, the fork lift truck manufacturer which remains one of the biggest employers.

The Sony Corporation of Japan chose Basingstoke as the Europe, Africa and Middle East headquarters for its Sony Broadcast subsidiary in 1978. The company designs and markets professional broadcasting equipment, researches digital audio and video tape processing and designs and constructs outside broadcasting vehicles from a variety of premises in the locality.

Also based at Basingstoke is the company's technical training department, which attracts engineers from all over the world and for which good transport links are essential.

Ample car-parking - Basingstoke is said to contain the biggest car park in Europe - together with access by motorway to an international airport and to all parts of Britain has also attracted the Automobile Association, IBM, Digital and BOCM to establish large office premises there. Companies which have recently moved their headquarters out of London include the Sun Life Assurance of Canada and the Provident Life Association.

The last 18 months have seen a surge of new developments, some of which result from moves by companies already in the area into new premises. Earlier this year Wiggins Teape, for example, created a vacancy at Gateway One, a 157,000 sq ft building carefully landscaped and purpose-built in 1974 when it moved to new premises next door.

Another vacancy was created at Belgrave House when Snamprogetti transferred to new 100,000 sq ft headquarter premises with high technology facilities.

There are also some small companies attracted to Basingstoke for similar reasons as their larger counterparts. Mr Howard Locke-Hooper and his wife Jan chose a town centre office in Basingstoke to set up their Scifax Micro Systems company, mainly because of its "Silicon Valley" associations. The company, which employs about five highly specialized software engineers, is involved in developing a high level computer language and operating system.

About 10 miles across the north Wessex Downs to the south west of Basingstoke, Andover once famous mainly for supplying birch twigs to vinegar brewers, is also being redeveloped. The Test Valley Borough Council said earlier this year that AMF Legg, a division of AMF International, is to build its national headquarters office adjacent to the Andover Sports Centre.

A newcomer to Andover - although by no means new to Hampshire - is Furelli General, which is to build a new factory and offices on a 10 acre site at the Portway Industrial Estate. The factory, which is scheduled to start operating by spring next year, will produce specialized electrical cables and is expected to employ 120 people in its initial stages.

Winning Winchester

Winchester, the administrative centre of Hampshire is one of those places where time appears to stand still. It was once the capital of Anglo-Saxon England and the magnificent cathedral which lies at the heart of the town was rebuilt by the Normans.

But behind the ancient facades of the buildings, developments are being planned at the forefront of high technology. Winchester College, still one of the great public schools, was opened in 1394 by William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, and is partly housed in the original fourteenth-century buildings.

AGI (Aeronautical and General Instruments), a publicly quoted company which designs and produces reconnaissance and telecommunications equipment, has its headquarters at Wickham House, a Queen Anne building overlooking the cathedral.

The largest private sector employer in the town is probably IBM, which has its UK research and development laboratories located in a manor house at Hantsley Park about seven miles away from the city centre. Another large employer is Conder International, a steel construction engineering company which has its headquarters at Kings Worthy on the outskirts of the city. A third is the Independent Broadcasting Authority with a base near by at Crawley.

Conder International, along with IBM (UK) and Southampton University, was one of the founder members of the Hampshire Development Association. Prompted both by concern about high unemployment and impact of financial incentives available in other areas, the association aims to coordinate the efforts of the various local authorities, the enterprise agencies and other organizations to promote Hampshire and the Isle of Wight as an entity to prospective employers.

Peter Scruton, the HDA director, explains that the HDA "should act as a product manager for the two counties." He adds: "As a quality product we cannot offer 'money-off deals'. Instead we communicate our product benefits."

Taking off for jobs

Aerospace activities and the Army are the predominant occupations in the Farnborough and Aldershot districts of Hampshire. One of the world's most spectacular events, the international air show takes place every two years at the Royal Aircraft Research Establishment's airfield at Farnborough. The barracks at Aldershot, five miles to the south, and an extensive area of more than 20,000 acres of firing ranges and training grounds has been the effective home of the Army for more than a century.

Though the flying displays each afternoon provide a sensational spectacle which can be seen for miles around, the Farnborough air show, which this year starts on September 2, is really a trade exhibition for the international aerospace industries. The diplomats, government ministers, airline executives and defence chiefs who attend do so in their official capacities.

Aldershot's barracks, churches and training grounds adjoin the airfield at Farnborough. A changing population of around 10,000 Army personnel and their families are housed here. As many civilians again are employed in the Army's extensive premises which forms the largest military training centre in Great Britain. One local authority planner remarked: "The Navy can use the sea for training, the Air Force the air, but the Army needs land".

The very large amount of ground occupied for defence training purposes - estimated at around 30 per cent of the total in the area - means that there is little left for private sector industries. An exception is the 330-acre Southwood community estate which lies about 1/2 miles east of Farnborough.

The infrastructure has been completed for a mixed residential, shopping and business development. An allocation of 55 acres has been made for a proposed high technology business park. The developer, who started work on the project last winter, says that already two large British companies and two international firms are already actively interested.

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IN EITHER CASE GIVE US A CALL

THE TIMES DIARY

Not burnt out yet

Graham Greene hopes to influence the US presidential election by publishing an indictment of Reagan's Central American policies two months before the November 6 polling day. The book, *Getting to Know the Generals*, is a tribute to Panama's late president, Omar Torrijos, who envisaged a non-Marxist Central America free of, but not a threat to, the United States. As usual, Greene has forbidden his publishers to release proof copies, but a clue to the contents lies in a rare, unpublished interview given to journalist Nigel Lewis. The US approach to Central America is that of a backyard bully, said Greene. "Reagan is trying to flex his muscles in a spot which he considered without danger. It is absurd to regard El Salvador as a strategic point for communism." It was Torrijos who got Greene into the US on a Panamanian diplomatic passport in 1978 after he had consistently been refused a normal entry visa because, as an Oxford undergraduate in the 1920s, he had been a Communist Party member for two weeks.

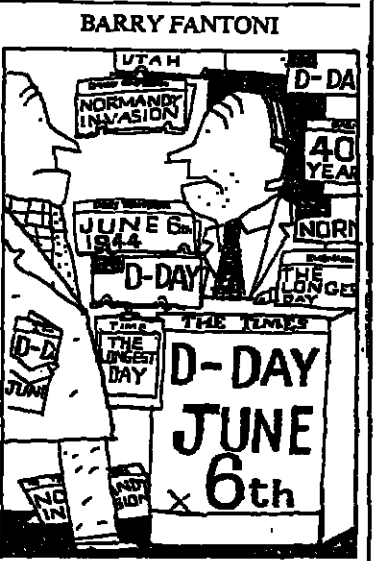
President Reagan can expect an earful of abuse when he returns to Washington from his European tour. *Sanity*, the CND magazine, has printed the number of his special "comment line" at the White House. And it points out that it costs just 25p for 30 seconds after 6pm.

Bridling

The miners' strike is being fought on many fronts. Jack Brown, socialist head of recreation, culture and health at South Yorkshire County Council, has chosen footpaths. He has written to the chief constable demanding to know on what authority police obstructed an ancient right of way near Orgreave coking plant during picketing last week. "I don't see any difference between them getting in the way and a farmer putting barbed wire across a path or ploughing it up," he told me. If the reply does not satisfy, he may go to court.

BA bouquet

The music used to accompany British Airways' latest TV ad has apparently had viewers jamming switchboards demanding to know its title. Now EMI is releasing it on a single this week - but not before digging it out of obscure French archive. It's the flower duet from Delibes' 1853 opera *Lakmé*.



Rent scent

The village of Hadleigh in Essex has fallen 514 years behind in paying rent for an old building. The rent agreed by the lord, Sir William Clopton, in 1430 was only a single rose per annum, but these things add up. Sir William's heir, American businessman Gene Clopton, has worked out that with interest the village owes him 1,303,364 roses. Generously he has decided to settle for just one. Pushing his luck, the mayor of Hadleigh, Christopher Culpin, has invited the village to a rent-paying ceremony this month - when he hopes to raise other matters such as landlord liability for repairs and improvements.

Cradle craft

CND is recruiting from the cradle. An internal prevelter passed to the Diary gives details of what demonstrators at Saturday's anti-Reagan rally can expect if arrested. Those aged between 14 and 17, it says, face a maximum fine of £400 and must be released on bail as soon as possible; parents of children aged 10 to 13 can be fined up to £100. But their offspring's fingerprints may not be taken without their permission. *Enfants terribles* under the age of ten may cause all the trouble they want; they cannot be arrested.

Piled away

Air Commodore Philip Pile, one of the six white officers cleared of blowing up Zimbabwe air force jets, only to be rearrested, believes that Robert Mugabe is leading a personal vendetta against him. The Zimbabwe Supreme Court's recent decision to uphold the not-guilty verdict means there are now no grounds for withholding pensions to the long-serving Pile and his fellow officers. Hugh Slater and Peter Briscoe - worth together about £1,500 a month and a lump sum of £100,000 - but yesterday Pile - in Britain and on a job - was still on his uppers. "As far as we can find out, payment is being blocked by Mugabe himself," he said.

PHS

Long on principle, short on fact

by John Vincent

Teaching is experiencing a crisis of morale. Teachers, say their unions, are no longer respected for their professional status. Accordingly, to win greater public respect, they are walking out on their pupils. They seek a substantial increase on the present offer of 4.5 per cent, not because they want the money, but because they have had enough. It is, they say, a matter of principle: they are fighting to save education.

Looking back to the Houghton pay award of 1974, when they spectacularly leapfrogged other groups of workers, teachers are clear that the cuts have hit education hard. Teaching today, they say, is more than flesh and blood can stand.

Alas for their cherished beliefs, they are wrong. Education has done well in the 10 years since Houghton, at least in the essential matter of the provision of teaching. In essentials, it has not done so well. But how we would rage if essentials had thrived at the expense of essentials! Today, public education is better provided for than ever before.

At least, that is what the Department of Education and Science statistics for England say. Some teachers will rightly say that their experience is different: that they have done worse than average.

This is no doubt true, but it means that teachers somewhere else have been doing better than average.

The main changes have been caused by a falling birth rate. While the number of secondary pupils has increased since 1974, primary pupils have fallen in each successive year by over a million in all. Ah, say the teachers, this opportunity should have been used to improve conditions in schools. Well, it has; only most teachers are too peevish to notice.

The key measure of provision is the pupil/teacher ratio. In primary schools, this has improved in every single year, without exception, since 1974. Then it was 24.9; in 1983 it was 22.3. The record of improvement in secondary schools is almost as good. There, despite a fall from 17.5 to 16.5 pupils per teacher over the decade, there were, alas, two years when staffing did not improve but merely stood still. But throughout the whole period in which teachers have been cut, there have been no cuts in teaching, only improvements.

Not only that; the total number of teachers paid by local education authorities has risen slightly, from

406,000 to 414,000 over the decade, while the number of pupils has fallen. If these are cuts, let us have more of them.

The improvement in staffing has been a gradual affair. There have been no great leaps forward. In any individual year, the change for the better will have been barely perceptible. But what is so impressive is the steady and sustained character of the improvements, irrespective of which party holds office. There may be some small element of optical illusion in the figures: a drop in the numbers of five-year-olds may show up more promptly than drops in the numbers of teachers, who retire by stages. Over a decade, this seems unlikely to matter.

Ah, teachers will say, this shows how little you know of the realities. What matters is class size. Quite so; how has the size of classes fared over the last decade? The answer is that we have seen unrelieved progress.

In 1977, under the People's Friends, 33.7 per cent of primary classes had 31 or more pupils; shocking you will agree. In 1983, under the New Callousness, the proportion had fallen to 19.3 per cent: quite a reform. In Secondary

schools, the proportion of classes with 31 or more pupils halved over the decade and is now down to only 7.5 per cent.

There are other welcome signs of progress. Numbers staying on after school-leaving age have grown enormously, from 242,000 in 1974 to 345,000 in 1983. Changed attitudes led, in 1982, to more girls than boys studying for A-levels for the first time.

Public education is better off than it has ever been. Not greatly better off, perhaps, for the vast system that teaches over seven million children can only move gradually, but still very usefully better off. In essentials, the "cuts" never happened.

Saying this may engender a flood of furious letters about pencils, rubbers, swimming lessons, music lessons, morale, and the intractable technical problems caused by a falling birth-rate; and why not? All these things are worth mulling about, provided they do not give the impression that teachers only mean. But, while the teachers go about their professional duty of disrupting education, let us at least place their claims to be acting on grounds of "principle" in their proper context of a decade of moderate educational improvement.

The author is professor of modern history at Bristol University.

Hazhir Teimourian explains the delay in Iran's 'final offensive'

Prudence v passion: Khomeini's personal conflict

Since February, the Middle East has awakened every morning in the expectation of news that Iran had launched its much-heralded "final offensive" against Iraq.

According to reports from the region itself, and from the major centres of power whose electronic eyes in space have watched the area closely, Iran has been amassing around a half-a-million troops along the southern sector of its front with Iraq, to the north-east of the Iraqi port of Basra, hoping to pounce on the road to Baghdad and cause a sudden collapse in morale of Iraq's armed forces that would pave the way for the installation of a modern-day Iranian satrapy in Mesopotamia.

But despite the normal march of the weather towards its peak of intolerability, little ground fighting has recently taken place between the two countries apart from the skirmishes in March on the Majnoon oilfields. Nevertheless, the ayatollahs in Tehran have continued to whip up enthusiasm among their followers for the battle that would end the long war. The state radio and television have daily called for gifts of refrigerators to keep the troops cool, and the Arab governments on the southern shores of the Gulf have continued to pour billions of dollars into the bottomless coffers of Iraq in an attempt to keep Khomeini's revolution as far from their borders as possible.

The apparent readiness of disaster for the Arabs spurred the superpowers into modifying their earlier, strict neutrality. The Russians, who last year saw Iran's pro-Moscow Tudeh (communist) Party crushed despite the unreserved support of its leaders for Ayatollah Khomeini, resumed the large-scale supplying of heavy weapons to Baghdad, and there have been persistent reports from Saudi Arabia that the United States was passing information, gathering intelligence and early-warning AWACS aircraft, regarding the deployment of Iran's forces, to the government of President Sad-



Iranian recruits board a helicopter for the front line. Below, an Iraqi gunner awaits the long-heralded attack.



dam Husain. The Americans announced, through the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, during a visit to Baghdad, that the collapse of Iraq would not be in the best interests of the US.

Why did Iran allow the most suitable weather for a land offensive to pass by? "Whatever the reason, it was certainly not a shortage of weapons," says Mr Hamilton Spence, managing director of Interarms, one of the world's largest private arms merchants, in Manchester. "The Iranians are buying everything they need, and they don't even have to pay more than the normal price for it." Mr Spence, a Scottish Presby-

terian, is dismissive of recent rumours that the Americans were supplying private arms dealers to stop supply of weapons to Iran.

"We don't sell arms to Iran because it is against British law, but if someone could manage a secret deal, how would the Americans know?" he asks. In American eyes, the chief culprits are North and South Korea, Spain and Italy. There are also reports, denied by Israeli leaders, that the government of Mr Yitzhak Shamir has been replacing its British-made Centurion and Chieftain tanks at breakneck speed with its own Merkava and shipping the redundant tanks to Iran through intermediaries.

The explanation for the delay in launching an invasion may lie in unconfirmed reports from Tehran that Ayatollah Khomeini was undecided whether to continue the war or to sue for large reparations while Iraq was trembling in a weak position. According to reliable sources in Tehran, the ayatollah held a secret meeting in May with one of his former, now disgraced, advisors, Mr Ebrahim Yazdi, and questioned his suggestion that the war be settled at the International Court at The Hague. In this context, Iran's recent attacks on oil tankers dealing with Iraq's Arab supporters are seen as mere retaliation for Iraq's extension of the war to the lower reaches of the Gulf through attacks on tankers calling at Iranian oil terminals.

There are indications that some of the men around the ayatollah have recently become bold enough openly to draw attention to the enormous economic and social problems of their country of over 40 million people. Despite the famous utterance of Ayatollah Khomeini that "economics is a subject fit for animals only", Prime Minister Mir Mousavi recently enumerated some of those problems as: "the need to distribute land to peasants, an extreme shortage of housing all over the country, the need to streamline (ie, nationalize) foreign trade, and the need to stem the growth of the money supply, which has been more than 250 per cent since the revolution" (of February, 1979). Other problems are high inflation, a collapsing industry, very high (undisclosed) unemployment, and the presence of more than three million refugees from the Gulf and Afghan wars.

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The German barque Pamb, sunk by a hurricane in mid-Atlantic in 1957 with the loss of 80 lives - most of them cadets

society which gives too few outlets to such impulses might find more young people looking for alternative excitement of a more destructive kind.

For each member of the crew of a ship, the safety of the vessel and everyone else in it may depend in theory on one's own competence. In practice, the howling wind and the drenching water create an impression of drama which, it must be confessed, is far less dangerous than it looks. A well-founded training ship is about the safest means in existence of enabling people to look into the abyss of cosmic dread and discover that they can go on working through it. But it is not wholly safe, and in the nature of things it could not be.

A former skipper of the Marquies and of the Royalist, Commander F. Morin-Scott, said yesterday that the disaster "demonstrates again that the sea is a dangerous place, and it always behoves one to be careful. And if it wasn't for that danger in the background, sail training would not be worthwhile at all".

George Hill

Disaster - but the bold will never shirk the challenge of sail

When ships sink, solemn inquiries meet and deliberate for months, or even years, to establish what went wrong and whether it could have been prevented. When a training ship full of young people is lost in conditions which do not seem to have been exceptionally severe, the inquiry has to be especially searching; and so no doubt it will be in the case of the barque Marquies.

In the meantime public opinion, which is apt to base itself very healthily on the presupposition whenever anything goes wrong that somebody must be to blame, may tend to conclude that the lesson of the case is that the open ocean is too dangerous a place for half-trained young people, in ships of archaic appearance only a fraction of the size of most ocean-going vessels. What business does anyone have to send them aloft to struggle with acres of thundering canvas, risking their necks in the kind of ships that drowned Nelson's navy by thousands? What could be more irresponsible or perverse?

This may not be the reaction of those who are actually candidates for adventure training. When the Danish training ship, *Koblenhavn*, was lost with all hands in the 1920s, it is said that applications for similar courses rose sharply in the years immediately afterwards.

But in some countries, and particularly in Britain - where official scepticism about the character-building virtues of damp, cold and a solid grounding in fancy rope-work has always been profound - most schoolships are run on a charitable basis, and a widespread public impression that the whole undertaking is an ill-founded and

dangerous one could have a damaging effect on support. If it is found that the loss of the Marquies was caused by some combination of circumstances that could not reasonably have been avoided - and that is sometimes the case even with the largest of ships at sea - then the harm done may be even greater than if some obvious preventable failure came to light.

Sailing ship disasters tend to stick in the memory and come crowding back when a new tragedy occurs. There was the *Pamir*, which sank in a hurricane in 1957 with the loss of 80 lives, and before the war the *Koblenhavn*, the *Admiral Karp* and the *Niobe*. But all of these (except the last, which was lost in a sudden squall through a design fault which has been eliminated in modern ships) were cargo-carrying vessels, trading all over the world in all weathers and seasons, and lost in icebergs, latitudes, or through commercial hazards like the shifting of a badly-loaded cargo.

Modern training ships have until now had an almost immaculate safety record. The *Sail Training Association's* races, in which Marquies had only just won the previous year, had been held regularly since 1956 without the loss of a single life through any deficiency in the ships. Superficially the vessels involved may resemble Nelson's navy, but most of them today are purpose-built vessels loaded with safeguards that Nelson never dreamed of. Regulations are strict, and inspections by governments and by the STA are frequent.

Because ships spend most of their lives offshore out of sight and out of mind, only assembling occasionally

for races or parades in company, it is easy to underestimate how extensive an activity sail training is. The Tall Ships races attract entrants from a dozen or more countries, with as many as 4,000 people aboard the ships competing in a single race. In Britain alone, the cadet ship *Royalist*, Sir Winston Churchill and Malcolm Miller, and the smaller vessels of the Ocean Youth Club, take about 4,000 young people to sea each year.

The subject is one where the "egg-in-basket" fallacy operates especially strongly. When an airliner crashes, we are rightly appalled at the sudden extinction of 100 or 200 lives, but the consistent statistic of about 20 deaths a day on British roads year in and year out impinges far less on the imagination. A shipwreck is as dreadful a thing to contemplate as an aviation disaster. But some 800 lives are lost through drowning every year in Britain, and last year the mountains in the Lake District alone took 21 lives. In terms of such comparisons, training ship casualties are low. Curiously enough, even the superficially hair-raising activity of swinging around high in the rigging scarcely ever leads to casualties, and those that do occur are more likely to be among the experienced and over-confident than among those who climb into unfamiliar territory half-paralysed with terror.

Life is sweet, and in logic it is a perverse thing that people so often seem to take pleasure in putting it to risk. But the impulse to do so is clearly deep and widespread. Mountaineers say that the rewards of developing skill and judgment can be earned only by testing them to the point where life depends on it. A

Robin Cook

Dinner for six, but look at the cost

"This Bill imposes a duty upon authorities to provide meals and milk. This appears to me most because you can actually see the worth of the investment in the children. They show the value of this policy not only in their growth, but in their cheeks." - Rob Butler, introducing the 1944 Education Act.

Michael McGair lives with his six children in an old mining village on the edge of the moors. One in three of the local men are out of work.

Mr McGair joined them two years ago when BL privatized its tractor models and the production line was transferred to a growth area 300 miles away. In the same autumn that he received his redundancy notice, his wife died, leaving him their six children in token of their fidelity to the church. In middle age, Mr McGair found himself obliged to master new skills, such as how to sew a trouser-steam or iron a pleated skirt.

In one respect only, he had a lucky break. On the date of his redundancy he was receiving sickness benefit. As the medical authorities continued to certify him unfit for work he qualified after six months for invalidity benefit, which provided him with an income £12 a week higher than he would have enjoyed on supplementary benefit.

Money remained tight but, by assiduous budgeting, he managed to avoid slipping into the pitfalls of arrears. Electricity was a real problem (a family of seven with few changes of clothes require the use of the washing machine daily), but by buying a fiver's worth of savings stamps at the post office whenever he drew his benefit, he always managed to clear the account. He traded in the colour television for a black and white model, which cut the licence payments to 29p a week. Indulgence on evenings out was limited to a couple of half-pints every Friday.

A valued ally in the struggle to keep the family out of debt was their eligibility for free school meals. Not only did this relieve Mr McGair of a substantial outlay, but it also guaranteed a daily cooked meal to six children without a mother. Mr McGair had every reason to suppose that this happy arrangement would continue for the decade that his younger children would remain at school.

Last year, Lothian Region was instructed by the Government to reduce its budget by £15m. The balance of power on the council is held by the Alliance, who have used it to install a Tory administration that found the directive to cut expenditure only too congenial.

The Tories imposed cuts of the required amount at a single council meeting, at which they secured a majority, through the absence of the Alliance councillors, who stayed away to spare themselves painful choices. Among the measures adopted was a restriction on eligibility for free school meals to the minimum laid down by law, thus confining it to

those in receipt of supplementary benefit or family income supplement.

Mr McGair, as I wrote, does not receive supplementary benefit, but invalidity benefit; therefore since January of this year he has ceased to qualify for free school meals. The impact on the family budget was immediate and devastating. The charge for five meals a week for the six children is £15.15, equivalent to a cut in the household budget of 12 per cent. Creating such a large amount of slack in a budget already drawn tight as a drum has compelled a further sharp reduction in the extent to which Mr McGair and his children can take part in the normal life of the community or share in those things that the rest of us accept as part of everyday living. He expresses particular regret that he cannot now afford oranges and apples for the children.

Ironically he would be better off had he never been awarded invalidity benefit, as he pays £3 a week more for school meals than he gains from the higher rate of benefit. Put another way, his income net of school meal charges leaves him with less than his entitlement under the supplementary benefit scale rates. He is living below the line set by even this government as subsistence level.

I wrote to the chairman of the education committee in March drawing attention to Mr McGair's case. He has not replied, but it would be unfair to lay the whole of the blame on the local Tory councillors - or even share it out between them and the Alliance councillors who washed their hands of the decision. The national minimum test of eligibility which they are applying is one devised by this government, and the immediate financial pressure which impelled them to adopt it was of this government's making. Mr McGair is only one of a legion left exposed by the shrinking of the welfare state as local authorities find themselves caught between a reduction in resources from government stringency and an expansion in demand from the casualties of recession.

Let anyone seeks refuge in convenient stereotypes let it be recorded that Mr McGair is not workshy. He worked until his job disappeared, and since then he has been regularly examined and repeatedly pronounced unfit for work. Even if his old job was still there and he was fit, his fulltime job as a single parent of six children would prevent him taking it.

In a previous age, such early bereavement would have obtained for Mr McGair and his children society's sympathy and support. The way they have been treated in our time is an affront to decency. Yet this government still has the nerve to prate about its commitment to the family.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Digby Anderson

When guilt is just a Nacronism

Buffy has rejected Nacro's recent report on shoplifting. Buffy is my cat and Nacro is the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. The report exemplifies the New Approach to Crime, and Buffy will have none of it.

Yesterday, as the shops were about to shut, I remembered I had to buy him some food and rushed out of the house. "Rush" is not the right word. You cannot rush out of our house since the crime prevention officer came. He is a helpful policeman who encourages householders to spend one or two hundred pounds on locks to keep impulsive burglars away. The locks have keys which I have to find. If I can find them, I lock the back door and all the windows on the inside, hide the keys, recite their secret location ten times, shut the front door, find the two keys for that and lock it twice. I can now proceed to the car, unless I have forgotten the car keys, in which case I repeat the operation in reverse and, then again, forward.

The car has also been subjected to the New Approach to Crime. One key for the door, one for the alarm, another for the serial and so on. Then there is a wrestling match with a bright red plastic thing that clamps the steering wheel to something I cannot see. At that point I remember *Songs of Praise*. Just before, after or instead of this popular Sunday programme has been another in which two ladies and a gentleman simulate rape and mugging in order to suggest ways in which victims can protect themselves. It is crucial to wear the right clothes; ones which are light or loose and which come off (or not) when you are grabbed (I forget which). One thing I do recall: my seven credit cards, 43 banknotes, six documents and 19 keys should be strategically and systematically distributed about my person making full use of all but two of my seven pockets.

Should I ask my neighbour to chaperon me? The *Standard*, last week, published a crime code to beat thieves who steal from shoppers in shops. Rule four urges, "Shop in pairs... so that one of you can watch the bags". I decide there is only going to be some catfood, milk and butter in the shopping bag after all. When I arrive at the shops, there is another brief bout with the red plastic thing in the car and an interlude attempting to extract the key from the steering lock. Now I am in the shop and the mission is as good as accomplished - but not if Nacro has its way.

Nacro has issued a statistical report on shoplifting, and a com-

ment. The report is informative and helpful. The main objectives of the comment are first to lessen then to redistribute the blame and "moral obligation" for shoplifting. Given the association's worthy efforts on behalf of offenders, it is, perhaps, not surprising that its comment makes no mention of the serious difficulties shoplifters cause to small shopkeepers and the increased costs passed on to consumers, including poor consumers.

Instead it describes much shoplifting as "trivial" and excessively punished. Its report shows fewer than 6 per cent of shoplifters imprisoned and 75 per cent of fines as less than £50: opinions will differ whether these are indeed Tartarean in their cruelty. Again, though the report makes no mention of shoplifters' motivations, the comment asserts that convicted shoplifters include, as well as those stealing for gain, youngsters (note the endearing term) "thieving for a dare" and "forgetful and muddled shoppers". The implication, again unsubstantiated, is that there are significant numbers of daring youngsters and muddled shoppers subjected to "devastating" punishment. Having exculpated the thieves, it remains to reveal the villain.

Seasoned observers will be expecting, at this point, the erection of the now traditional but always distracting urban-crisis-and-unemployment sideshow. Instead, we are treated, centre ring, to a perfectly executed moral somersault: the shopkeepers are to blame. They do not take enough precautions against theft and they tempt their customers with "attractive" and "accessible" goods. What the comment, *The Standard* code *Songs of Praise* and the crime prevention officer have in common is their enthusiastic endorsement of the New Approach to Crime. Blame and exhort not the shoplifter, thief, mugger or burglar but their victims until their pockets are emptied by expensive precautions and shredded by 19 keys. And all the while Buffy starves.

Had Nacro got at the catfood shop before I got to it, I would have had to queue to use the compulsory bag park. I would not have found the food because it would have been too "attractive" or "accessible" and hidden. After watching myself not finding it on several closed-circuit television screens, I arrive home to find the cat had relied on the old approach to crime and stolen the chicken I left on the table when I "rushed" out.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.



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DEAR FRIENDS

"My dear friend, this is much the greatest thing we have ever attempted." Churchill to Roosevelt on D-Day plans, October 1943.

The D-Day landing in Normandy on June 6 1944 represents the zenith of achievement for the Anglo-American wartime partnership. It capped nearly three years of collaboration and discussion in which the Americans had persistently demonstrated their commitment and desire to confront the German army on the continent while the British, right up to the day, remained deeply cautious and uncommitted.

Of course by 1944 the Normandy campaign, though central to the war's eventual outcome, was only the high point of Anglo-American cooperation which operated across the whole strategic field, and profited from many other national contingents from the Commonwealth and occupied Europe. Had history ever before witnessed such an alliance? British and American armies had fought together in North Africa. They were advancing north through Italy. They were making separate but coordinated thrusts on Japan through Burma and wide-ranging naval operations in the Pacific. Their navies shared the north Atlantic burden. Each night from eastern England their air forces flew out on bombing raids into the heart of Nazi Germany; and deep in the continental fastness of the United States British and American scientists pooled their genius in the Manhattan Project.

It was thus a truly global alliance. But never did any of its other enterprises come close to the completeness, and the feeling of some kind of psychological parity, so dramatically demonstrated by the D-Day landings and the Normandy campaign. Partly it must have been the greatness of Eisenhower who, perhaps alone of any allied soldier, had the generosity of spirit and strategic vision to weld the allied force under him into a single fighting instrument. He kept the American commitment sustained in spite of the fact that his three immediate subordinates were all British officers.

For both nations, however, the meaning of the landing was clear. After years of indirect strategy, it marked the decisive change from minor to major. It was the start of the last phase. Such massive and direct confrontation with the Nazi machine could only end in Nazism's final and total eclipse from the heart of Europe.

Today's celebration recognizes D-Day as the pre-eminent festival of allied achievement. It encapsulates a historical partnership of quite singular intensity. The essence of that moment obviously sustained the Anglo-American alliance throughout a long post-war period. We had shared so much. It was not just in the joint command, but with every American serviceman whose wartime experience took him deep into rural England, or who shared with British servicemen on the European mainland a common identity either as liberator or conqueror - charac-

teristics which were not given to other Europeans.

There was a generalized American commitment to Europe, first with the recovery plan, then with NATO, the huge protective garrison, and the cultivation of a democratic West Germany worthy of allied embrace. But there were always also special communications between London and Washington. The wartime experience conditioned politicians, servicemen and bureaucrats to a natural affinity. It was procedural, rather than principled, but the global nature of both nations' preoccupation, even allowing for passing disagreements over de-colonization or Suez, meant that Washington and London more often spoke the same strategic language than any other combination of Western allies.

Moreover, apart from procedures, there was, and is, a special commitment of exclusivity in the nuclear business. The 1958 Nuclear Materials Agreement does not apply to any other country, nor is Congress likely ever to sanction that privilege being extended further. Polaris and Trident are the practical expressions of a unique strategic relationship. It goes further than that, however, as a result of a tradition of partnership over the years. During the Falklands campaign, for instance, the Pentagon at the working level provided abundant military assistance without that ever having to become the subject of formal negotiations between governments.

So are we today just celebrating the 40th anniversary of a great military alliance? Do its vestiges just linger on here and there as historical anomalies? Is the contemporary reality that Britain will take its place at the summit tomorrow no more and no less in affinity with the United States than the other European summiteers or for that matter Japan? Surely not.

It would be wrong to allow the particular circumstances of D-Day or the diversification of Anglo-American political energies since then to foster the impression that nothing much now is left of that central inspiration which binds the English-speaking peoples together. It is a cultural and historical bond which must still, at the intuitive level, mean more and strike deeper into the national imagination than anything formulated in the chancelleries of Europe.

The American President is in our midst this week. But the American presence is in our midst every week, on stage or screen; in literature; in the emphasis newspapers accord to American events rather than to European ones; in the cross-pollination of students at our and their universities; in the huge tourist traffic across the North Atlantic; in the fact that Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Canada are the only five countries in the world who can look back on the last fifty years of their history without having to mark invasion, dictatorship or some other aberrant departure from

the standards of liberal democracy which alone have been sustained by these five communities of the English-speaking world.

Could anybody claim that such a tangle of interconnections link British people half so closely with any of Britain's other allies? The taproots of trans-Atlantic affinity plunge deeper into the soil of Britain and the United States than any comparable measurement across the Channel.

This very closeness has its drawbacks, of course. First it magnifies the effect of natural disagreements. Whereas in war Britain and the United States subordinated most of their policies to the common strategic determination to defeat the Axis powers, in peace - even a cold peace such as the Soviet attitude to the outside world makes of this one - there are many different priorities. Britain's membership of the European Community and Washington's preoccupations with Latin America and the Pacific show divergent priorities. There is thus a common bureaucratic tendency in the Foreign Office and the Department of State to iron out any speciality in the bilateral relationship in case it causes unnecessary tensions with other allies. The official machines like to keep relations between states official. They resent the kind of intimacy and spontaneity of communications between leaders such as that achieved by Roosevelt and Churchill. They resent most other extra-curricular contacts, for that matter.

Yet that kind of informality is much more essential to a special alliance than any number of formal arrangements. Portugal may be Britain's oldest ally, but nobody would expect such an alliance to reflect the deep pool of understanding of each other's ways that exists between Britain and her old Commonwealth partners or between Britain and the United States.

These understandings need no treaties. They do not colour communications. They exist in the spirit, not the letter, of international relations. That is why they tend to be questioned by analytical minds and measured against the artificial criteria of a world community which happens to accord more importance to the letter of things than to the spirit.

Notwithstanding our disagreements therefore, and the divergence of our ways, notwithstanding that today's ceremony in Normandy has other actors on the stage; notwithstanding that though Canada will be there, Australia and New Zealand, in accordance with the fighting contribution they were making elsewhere, will not; notwithstanding all these things, today we will not just be celebrating the high point of the greatest military partnership the world had ever seen. We will be celebrating the fact of being again with our friends, and of being still confident, each of the other, that the test of true friendship is to be there on the night.

his candidacy in the November party presidential elections. His party is the most unpredictable political entity, as is seen from the fact that it has had six presidents (and thus Japan has had six prime ministers) since 1972, none of whom have lasted for more than two years.

The Prime Minister's power is based on a precarious balance of ever-fickle, factional advantages and disadvantages. Mr Nakasone did not please the faction by presiding over a poor result for his party at last December's general elections.

It would indeed be unwise to assume, in the euphoria generated by the London summit, that Mr Nakasone will be leading his country past the end of the year. On the other hand, if he were able to bring off re-election he would be in an unprecedently strong position to exert his authority, having broken the "two-year barrier" on the prime ministership.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. STOCKWIN, Director,
Nuffield Institute of Japanese Studies,
1 Church Walk,
Oxford.

Air on Everest
From Mr Edward Smyth
Sir, Mr Holdsworth (May 28) claims that two climbers who disappeared on Everest "bequeathed a legacy of personal achievement" which is not only a challenge to other climbers but an inspiration to the wider world.

It must be asked whether the sacrifice of a human life in pursuit of a mountain peak, or the ideal which it symbolises, should ever be regarded as an achievement in any sense at all.

At best such loss of life is a calamity due to one of the calculated risks inseparable from the nature of the climb; at worst it is due to mismanagement or incompetence, or to disregarding one of the basic factors known from much accumu-

lated experience to be necessary for safety at high altitudes. In any event it is a failure, and an irrevocable one.

Like Dr Warren (May 19), himself an experienced Everest climber of former days, many - let us hope most - mountaineers will still prefer to uphold a safer philosophy of Alpinism. Such a philosophy (whether traditional or otherwise) beside the point was well expressed by the late Frank Smythe, who wrote after returning from near the summit of Everest:

The measure of the worth of mountaineering lies not only in accomplishment but in the margin of safety over and above that accomplishment.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD SMYTH,
Green Lanes,
Chert,
Farnham,
Surrey,
May 28.

Pursued by a bear
From Mr Clarence Fry
Sir, I can quote a much more recent example than Mrs G. L. Nunn's (May 25) of an Englishman's narrow escape from a polar bear.

My maternal uncle, the Reverend W. H. Fry, a missionary in the Diocese of the Arctic during the first decade of this century, once pulled the trigger of his rifle when a bear was (in the words related to me, which burned themselves into my boyhood mind) "almost upon him".

He had the bear's skin sent to his sister in England, where it lay for many years upon her drawing-room carpet, with a neat bullet hole exactly in the middle of the forehead, testifying either to my uncle's marksmanship or (more probably) to the closeness of the encounter.

Yours faithfully,
CLARENCE FRY,
119 Otawa Road,
Wotton-super-Mare, Avon.
May 25.

Healing the scars of warfare

From the Reverend Canon P. A. Berry

Sir, May I continue to question the wisdom of the arrangements made for the fortieth commemoration of the D-Day landings in Normandy?

To exclude the West German President seems a divisive act at a time when all our efforts should be concentrated on preserving the essential unity of the European community. Such wartime memorials and commemorations only have validity if they speak to the present and contain in them opportunities of reconciliation and a determination to heal the wounds of history and strengthen future co-operation.

I write from within a Ministry of Reconciliation in Coventry, both at its cathedral and in the city, where for over 30 years considerable efforts have been made to promote and continue a wide range of contacts with German cities in the West and in the East.

Fortieth anniversaries are with us during this year and next. Kid this month and Darmstadt in September are using these occasions to strengthen their friendship with English cities. In February, 1985, the City of Dresden in the DDR, devastated almost beyond recognition, will be generously inviting many citizens of Coventry to share a programme of commitment to peace and reconciliation.

Why should the remembering of June 6 be so glaringly different?

Yours faithfully,
PETER BERRY
(Vice-Provost of Coventry),
Coventry Cathedral,
7 Priory Row,
Coventry,
West Midlands,
June 1.

Conflicting creeds

From the Chaplain of Exeter College, Oxford

Sir, Mr Gerald Bonner (May 26) feels that he has the right to expect in his bishop the same acceptance of fundamental Christian belief that he has himself and seems to base this right on his generosity in relieving the poverty of the clergy.

I would not disparage Mr Bonner's well advertised liberality, but would remind him that the Church of England is supported by a wide variety of other people. If he rattles his purse whenever his bishop offends him, he will deserve the harking he seems to expect.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM SHAW, Chaplain,
Exeter College, Oxford,
May 26.

Accounting for pay

From the Comptroller and Auditor General

Sir, May I point out that your headline, "MPs agree to 25 per cent rise for auditors" (June 5), is seriously misleading. The essence of the new pay structure for the National Audit Office is that it is performance-related. The former system under which staff moved by automatic increments to the maximum for their grade is being abandoned.

Under the new regime any movements up the salary range will have to be earned by performance and only a small proportion of staff will ever reach the maximum for their grade. Others will move to lower points on the salary range and some will not move at all.

A fairer measure of the effect of the proposals is that, in the first full year, they will add 3½ per cent to the National Audit Office's salary bill - a small price to pay for a system involving sharp incentives to greater efficiency.

The change is required by our inability to recruit sufficient numbers of staff of good quality and our loss of trained staff to our competitors.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON DOWNEY,
Comptroller and Auditor General,
National Audit Office,
Audit House,
Victoria Embankment, EC4,
June 5.

Scope in engineering

From Mr T. G. P. Rogers

Sir, Professor Heyman (and others) in his letter (May 31) asks industry for suggestions over the shortage of vacation training places for engineers.

We have some 3,500 electronic technologists: we have work for about 700 more than that, so the ones we have are fully stretched. Nevertheless we have committed to train this year 130 vacation students, 200 sponsored and sandwich students, and 507 graduate recruits - a total of 927 technologist trainees.

So we are coping with a 26 per cent training load and a 20 per cent resource shortage. The pressure is not training budget: it is engineering manpower to give trainees proper attention and help.

We therefore argue that we (like many other companies) are doing all

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Decisions on ethics and embryos

From Dr R. G. Edwards, FRS and Mr P. C. Steptoe

Sir, Professor Kennedy (feature, May 26) makes three points, renewing the absolutist arguments in a slightly amended form.

First, he has a moral repugnance to research on early human embryos. Our ethical reservations about such work are different and involve making some difficult decisions. We believe we must do as much as possible to help the infertile, avert the birth of maimed new-borns condemned from the moment of their conception, and introduce new medical approaches now emerging through in-vitro fertilization.

We cannot accept that attempts must be made to fertilize only one egg in each patient, so limiting the success of the treatment to 16 per cent.

Professor Kennedy sees no ambiguity in the resulting consequence of a needless and repeated succession of drugs and operations on patients to satisfy his ethical stance. What would happen if the single embryo described by your leader (May 24) as "unprepared and largely inchoate" replaced such an embryo in its mother, or any scientist fail to make every effort to find the cause of the abnormality by studying it?

Secondly, he claims "that asserting an embryo as potential to become human does not necessarily assert it has the necessary and sufficient conditions to express its potential".

We found this point very difficult to follow: it apparently implies that all embryos with potential should have the right conditions to develop. We sincerely hope we are wrong in this interpretation, which must apply to all embryos growing in vitro or in vivo.

By this argument, embryos developing as hydatidiform moles (and Professor Kennedy clearly fails to understand the genesis of this disorder) must be given conditions for growth even if they destroy the mother, and so too must those with chromosomal anomalies, recessive and dominant mutations, or other defects. No IUDs (intra-uterine devices), no post-coital contraception, no genetic screening to disclose abnormalities in foetuses.

Lastly, he claims that society has traditionally given moral concern to spermatozoa and ova. Some societies have done others have not, including our own. Both gametes - and early embryos come to that - are given scant respect by any society which uses contraception, to say nothing of abortion.

How sad it is to read Professor Kennedy's comments that science and research are allied to moral repugnance, "unacceptable experimentation, and doubts about the moral attitudes of scientists. We believe that the stages soon after fertilization are undifferentiated and that full moral protection must be conferred later, before neural tissue and sense organs enter their advanced stages."

The law has already entered this complex area of human affairs with

the chequered history of acts on abortion and congenital disabilities. Far better that regulation acts as a guide, not an inflexible law, involving cooperation with all professions concerned in settling issues raised by the advance of science and medicine.

If we are not mistaken, a not too dissimilar attitude was recently taken by lawyers in deciding on some legal aspects of post-coital contraception. Long may such cooperation continue.

We remain, yours faithfully,
R. G. EDWARDS,
Bourn Hall Clinic,
Bourn,
Cambridgeshire,
June 4.

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for Castle Point (Conservative) and Lord Robertson of Oakridge

Sir, As science enters hitherto unimaginable realms with the development of procedures involving in-vitro fertilisation, we, as parliamentarians, are seriously concerned that the public, so aptly described by your leader (May 24) as "unprepared and largely inchoate", is by now thoroughly bemused by the myriad arguments surrounding this vital issue.

We do not consider that the report *Human Procreation*, produced by a working party of the Council for Science and Society, is going to dispel this confusion.

Basic to its thinking is the concept that we can "manufacture" human beings. This is justified by its emphatic statement that human life does not begin at conception.

The report, described as a forerunner to the Warnock committee's findings, puts forward a seriously shallow philosophy which boils down to telling us that the moment when our lives "officially" begin is purely arbitrary. Surely people can see the dangers of according human rights only to those who have achieved a given age (be it foetal or otherwise) and of declaring (as does *Human Procreation*) that professional bodies of scientists and doctors should be the most appropriate controllers of such developments, especially since they cannot agree when life does begin?

Is there not a danger that human procreation is being reduced to battery farming and, just as battery animals are considered "fair play" for some scientists wanting to assuage their curiosity over how far one can push the bounds of science, so one can see precisely the same attitude developing with regard to women and human embryos?

If *Human Procreation* is indeed a forerunner to the Warnock report, then the nation should be forewarned, otherwise the most destructive ethos will be imposed upon us and by the time people have awakened to the dangers it will be too late.

Yours truly,
BERNARD BRAINE,
House of Commons,
ROBERTSON OF OAKRIDGE,
House of Lords,
June 4.

Quotas for sugar

From Lord Jellicoe and others

Sir, We, the signatories of this letter, have over many years been concerned with the cane sugar sector and would like to take the opportunity to comment on the forthcoming accession of Portugal to the EEC.

Portugal will accede to the Community in the next year or so and will bring to the Community an increased requirement for raw cane sugar of around 300,000 tonnes per year. Portugal's sugar requirements are currently met entirely from imports of raw sugar and part of these requirements are met under long-term agreements with some ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) countries.

We shall be looking to the EEC to increase the quotas for which preferential EEC access is granted under the Sugar Protocol of the

Lomé Convention in order to ensure that Portugal can continue to obtain its requirements of raw cane sugar after accession to the EEC.

In increasing the preferential quotas, the EEC would be greatly assisting the economies of those developing-country exporters which have the sugar available to take up increased quotas and which are most anxious to do so.

Over the next few months we shall make every effort possible to achieve a successful outcome for the benefit of the raw sugar exporters and the cane sugar sector within the enlarged EEC.

Yours faithfully,
JELICOE,
CAMBELL OF ESKAN,
J. B. TOGANIVALLU
(High Commissioner for Fiji),
Tidcombe Manor,
Near Marlborough,
Wiltshire,
June 1.

British entry to China

From the Director General of the British Council

Sir, Professor Harvard Williams's letter of May 19 lamented the showing of a British presence in China. A British cultural presence is, however, very much in evidence.

The astonishing success of the BBC English language programme, *Follow Me*, which is seen by audiences of many millions, is perhaps the most visible. English is the official second language of China. At 13 major Chinese universities there are 30 British Council-resourced English language lecturers. There are also 15 teachers of English under Voluntary Service Overseas.

There is a constant stream of British visitors from the performing arts. Some 30 collaborative links

have been formed between British and Chinese academic institutions, mainly in science and technology. The Royal Society, British Academy and the Great Britain China Centre are all active in arranging two-way visits.

All this is not necessarily visible to the British visitor. It is, however, very visible to a generation of young Chinese who have had limited access to British ideas and achievements. We hope that in an increasingly welcome climate, created by the council's work in spreading knowledge of the English language and by establishing academic and artistic links, other British enterprise will become more visible.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BURGH, Director General,
The British Council,
10 Spring Gardens, SW1,
May 30.

we can within our human resources and our business obligations. So what is possible?

My first suggestion relates directly to Cambridge. They have a particularly mandatory requirement that engineering undergraduates must undergo "hands-on" workshop experience in industry.

The Finniston report says this should be done in the academic institution and it is a paradox that Cambridge has, perhaps the finest university engineering workshop facilities under Mr Nigel Wallace, who also signed the letter to which I am replying.

I suggest a "long vac" term in the engineering workshops could do much to ease the mandatory vacation training problem.

Secondly, there is a Government committee recently formed to study the acute skill shortages in electronics and to propose actions to

alleviate the problems causing this shortage. This body must conclude that solutions depend on money, human resource and technical facilities.

Perhaps the human and technical resources of higher education can be used more fully than at present so that more engineering places are created, more training is done in university workshops and laboratories, and more conversion course places are created to enable graduates in other disciplines to become engineers and computer scientists.

The answer has to be a partnership between the taxpayer, education and industry and I hope this correspondence may contribute to this end.

Yours etc,
PARRY ROGERS, Director,
The Plessey Company plc,
Millbank Tower, SW1,
June 1.

Force of reaction in architecture

From the Secretary of the Royal Fine Art Commission

Sir, Modernists and post-modernists alike must regret the Prince of Wales's remarks about architecture, for he reduces that supreme art either to a process (community architecture) or to cosmetics (circles and arches).

Designing is a complex creative process requiring the conviction and dedication which are the prerogative of the artist. By dismissing modern architecture the Prince dismisses not only the work of many of the world's most dedicated architects (including Charles Correa, on whom he was conferring this year's royal gold medal) but, by implication, the whole of the modern movement in art to which these architects are heir and of which not only Mrs van der Rohe but Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Aalto, Picasso and Moore, to name but the greatest, form a part.

It seems ironical, moreover, that the Prince should call for a community architecture when the architecture he condemns springs from the deep social commitment that was part and parcel of the modern movement. One need only recall the social housing programme of the 1920s in Germany, or the housing and schools programme in post-war Britain, to realise that never has so much care been lavished by architects on the community than in the last sixty years, however inadequate some of the results.

By allying himself with the forces of reaction the Prince prompts a comparison with the propretarian, typical of totalitarian regimes. Of course in our free society he claims to echo public opinion, yet there is little evidence that a majority in this country is against modern architecture. Indeed the public's enthusiasm for Richard Rogers's "high-tech" entry in the National Gallery competition suggests the contrary.

Yours faithfully,
SHERBAN CANTACUZINO,
Secretary,
Royal Fine Art Commission,
2 Carlton Gardens, SW1,
June 4.

From Mr Francis Russell

Sir, Whether Wilkins's facade of the National Gallery is "weak", as your editorial (June 1) states, is a matter of opinion. But the banality of the architectural profession's attempts to rise to the challenge presented by the competition for the proposed extension shows that it is wrong to dismiss the suggestion that a scheme more conformable with the context should have been seriously considered.

Mr Ahrends's project remains absurdly inappropriate to the site and one can only hope that it will be rejected by the inspector.

In fairness to the architects, it should be observed that the trustees of the National Gallery have themselves allowed the interior of the building to be grossly mis-handled. Does a museum that has made its central gallery into a shop really deserve an extension at all?

Yours etc,
FRANCIS RUSSELL,
The Grange,
East Hamsey,
Wantage,
Oxfordshire,
June 1.

Industrial warning

From Professor Denis Pym

Sir, I am disturbed by the veiled hysteria which Mr Scargill and his supporters have provoked throughout the length and breadth of this kingdom. If Mr Scargill is mad, then he has good reason.

We may be approaching a situation in which all our energy needs could be provided through the employment of a few hundred people. Such circumstances, repeated over a range of industries, would solve no problems that matter, but they will surely hasten the end of industrial society as we know it.

At present we offer ourselves no meaningful alternatives. The applications of new technology seldom elevate the human condition; quite the reverse; too often they are founded on our denigration.

When our relationships with technology are determined by the employment contract we seem quite content to allow technology to undermine human dignity and self-respect. It is time we recognised that "good order" cannot be founded upon an ideology of ever-increasing efficiency and the militarization of the police.

As they did 10 years ago the miners are offering us yet another chance to examine what we are doing. Let us hope this time more of us have the courage to acknowledge and act against what is both fraudulent and insane in our daily lives instead of piling it all on the National Union of Mineworkers.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS PYM,
London Business School,
Sussex Place,
Regent's Park, NW1,
May 24.

A past master

From Mr Harold Glover

Sir, In your issue of May 31 a prominent advertisement says that "In 1876... thousands of people wasted a lot of time learning Morse code".

The same issue contains the obituary of Mr Harold Cottam who, by his skill as a marine wireless operator, helped to save the lives of 705 Titanic survivors in 1912.

Yours faithfully,
H. GLOVER,
Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1,
June 1.

Parental control

From Dr B. W. Martin

Sir, In the current debate on parent control of schools governing bodies, may I draw attention to the recommendation made in the consultative document issued last summer by the standing conference, Education 2000?

Schools will be accountable through their representative governing bodies (RGBs) to the local community and the LEA, local education authority. Membership of RGBs will be constituted by representatives of parents, teachers, students, local employers, and members of organizations which make use of the school's facilities, all in a higher proportion to nominees of the LEA.

The delegates phrased the recommendation in this way so that no particular interest would occupy a dominant position over the rest and so that any decision would need broad general agreement. Neither parents, nor the political nominees of the local council, could, under this constitution, hold biased sway.

Such a solution of the present problem would achieve the most balanced reform of governing bodies.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN MARTIN,
Magdalen College School,
Oxford,
May 29.

Threat to Japanese PM

From Professor J. A. A. Stockwin

Sir, May I comment on a passage in the article by Sarah Hogg on the Japanese Prime Minister in your issue of May 25. She writes that Mr Nakasone, who faces reappointment by his party before the end of the year, "does not seem to be seriously under threat from heirs-apparent or elder statesmen of the faction-ridden Liberal Democratic Party".

In fact, Mr Nakasone himself clearly realizes that he is under considerable threat and is curtailing his overseas travel in order to prepare the ground domestically for

COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

● **PORTSMOUTH AND SUNDERLAND NEWSPAPERS:** Year to March 31, 1984. Results include those of Jesse Ward Investments from Nov. 4, 1983. Turnover £35.24m (£30.53m). Pretax profits £2.12m (£3.33m). Total dividend 4p (3.75p). After the flotation of Reuters, the company's investment in the Press Association and Reuters Holdings "B" shares is estimated to be worth £7.1m, after allowing for capital gains tax. To reduce the cost of borrowing, the company has sold in the flotation 1.82 million of the "B" shares at 19p, which will realise an estimated £3.04m after tax; within the next seven days, up to a further 141,052 Reuters shares may be sold at 19p to realise £2,35,000 (net), if the US underwriters exercise their options.

● **UNITFLX HOLDINGS:** Company plans to raise about £1.1m. before expenses, by a one-for-one rights issue of 2.43 million shares at 45p each and proposes to change its name to Hunter.

● **MCCORQUODALE:** Half-year to March 31, 1984. Comparisons restored. Sales £57.36m (£55.78m). Pretax profit £3.07m (£3.5m). Interim dividend 2p (£1.84p, adjusted).

● **HAZLEWOOD FOODS:** Year to March 31, 1984. Turnover £35.16m (£30.04m). Pretax profit £3.06m (£2.02m). Total dividend raised from 9.5p to 11.5p. EPS 38.9p (26.7p).

● **CAPITAL GEARING TRUST:** Year to April 5, 1984. Pretax loss £9,000 (£15,000 loss). Dividend 0.35p (0.25p). One-for-one scrip issue proposed.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bid talk lifts CU shares

By Derek Pain and Michael Clark

Expect news of a dawn raid on shares of Britain's biggest insurance group, Commercial Union, when dealings resume this morning.

At least, that was the word in the market yesterday as shares of the composite rose another 5p to 214p for a two-day gain of 16p, on hopes that the German insurance group Allianz was preparing to make a bid.

Jobbers will be keeping a close eye on Allianz's stockbroker, Rowe & Pittman, before the market opens and will be prepared to hoist the price sharply higher at the first sign of a raid.

But round at CU's headquarters they were keeping calm about becoming the German group's next takeover target after its abortive bid for Eagle Star last year. A spokesman said: "We've heard a lot of these rumours before. If we knew of any reasons for the activity in the share price we would have to notify the Stock Exchange".

Allianz remained unavailable for comment.

At last night's close CU is valued at more than £380m and

the recent amount of heavy speculative support has been responsible for the renewed strength in the share price. Several brokers claim the shares are overvalued and both Wood Mackenzie and Griverson Grant have recommended that clients should switch into other composites like Royal. CU has met heavy losses on its American side and this has also led to

Shares of Leisuretime International surged 9p to a new high of 75p yesterday - for a two-day rise of 16p - on hopes of good news shortly. The word is that Kennedy Brooks, the Mario & France to Wheeler restaurant chain with a near 7 per cent stake, is getting closer to the company and will soon obtain board representation.

speculation that the group may be prepared to sell its interests. The rest of the insurance composites enjoyed selective support with General Accident up 5p at 456p, Guardian Royal 2p at 563p, London United Investments 8p at 216p, Royal

Insurance 5p at 565p and Sun Life 3p at 363p.

Elsewhere, a better than expected set of money supply figures helped the equity market overcome a cautious start to trading and allayed fears that a 1 per cent rise in interest rates would be announced today.

In the event, the FT Index, having been 9.2 down earlier in the day, rallied to close only 3.2 lower at 840.1. The index is still nearly 40 points up on the week, but may be set to open lower again today after a nervous start to trading on Wall Street overnight. The FT-SE 100 also ended a net 0.2 down on the day at 1077.3.

The 3 per cent increase in money supply was also good news for gilts which continued to enjoy their recent re-rating. Prices in long recovered an early ¼ to close up to ¼ higher with the FT Government Securities Index rising 0.17 to 79.51. Dealers reported that the issue of an extra £600m of top stock earlier in the week had made little difference to sentiment.

The threat of a new offensive by Iran in the Gulf war last renewed impetus to oil shares as the number of countries complaining about a reduction in supplies as a result of the fighting began to grow.

BP, spurred 7p to 514p, Shell a similar amount to 678p, London & Scottish 2p to 303p, British 5p to 255p, Barmah 1p to 172p, and Imperial Continental Gas 5p to 313p.

Leading equities failed to gain much inspiration from the pressure taken off interest rates, with investors casting a cautious eye over renewed selling in New York. ICI dipped 6p to 572p, Bower Corp 4p to 258p, BOC Group 2p to 258p and Becton 32.5p.

Newcomer Reuters has enjoyed better support in London than it has met with in New York, but yesterday encountered profit-taking as the price slipped 5p to 208p. This compared with the 196p the shares were struck at on Monday.

Another planned transatlantic share float has come adrift. Low and Bonar, the engineering to textile group, has shelved its plans to sell 35 per cent of its Canadian offshoot to local investors because of conditions on the Toronto stock exchange. Last week, the Cadbury Schweppes soft drink and sweets group dropped its plans for a US quote.

Low and Bonar says that it will continue with its Canadian plan when market conditions improve. With all the documentation completed, the second attempt should not take too long, it says. The shares fell 8p to 196p on the setback.

Trident TV, the leisure group, has achieved interim profits of £5,235,000 against £3,738,000. Dividend is 1.7p (1.5p). "A" shares rose 2p to 141p.

Lorin, the switches group, intends to pay a maiden interim dividend. It says current profits are running "significantly" ahead of last year. The shares rose 3p to 174p.

The denial by the Federal Reserve Board of America that it was prepared to bail-out those US commercial banks with doubtful Third World loans

caused the British clearing banks some problems. Monday's gains of up to 15p were wiped-out by losses yesterday.

Barclays dropped 5p to 464p. Lloyds, with extensive Latin-American loans, fell 12p to 527p. NatWest dropped 15p to 564p and Midland fell 10p to 327p.

An exception was Grindlays Bank. Revived takeover talk enabled its shares to hold steady at 162p after a 28p gain Monday.

The talk suggested that American Citibank will increase its 48 per cent stake in Grindlays name for its British retail operations. So far, Citibank's Money Centres are said not to have proved as profitable of successful as the Americans had hoped. Indeed, there was speculation that Citibank might rein back some of its Money Centre operations.

The problems for the Americans is that the archly-conservative British shopper has not responded well to the Money Centre approach. So Grindlays' name could provide a viable alternative and provide Citibank with a useful British partner for the Vickers de Costa deal, completed on Monday, coincidentally, Citibank had made no secret of its acquisition plans in Britain and has often said that, "all options are open".

Belhaven Brewery, now run by the Virani family, rose 1p to 34p after it announced profits of £405,000 (£156,000). No dividend is being paid. The

There are now whispers of a bid for Mr Harold King's United Guarantee Holdings, the fuel distribution group, where the shares continue to hover around the year's low of 40p. Mr King is said to be willing to part with his near 30 per cent stake, leaving the way open for a likely suitor. The favourite among contenders is BP with its large number of petrol stations.

company has fixed up a deal with the Imperial Group to distribute the beers of its Courage offshoot in Scotland. Belhaven is also buying certain Courage assets in Scotland in exchange for cash and shares.

British Car Auctions was unchanged at 103p as terms of the already signalled merger of its two US operations, Anglo American Car Auctions and the quoted Sandgate Corporation were announced.

On the USM, Hartons, the plastics group, jumped 5p to 30p after Mr Max Meimann, chairman, told shareholders that first half profits will "show a considerable improvement" over last year's corresponding figures.

The fashion group Raybeck was unchanged at 41p on its deal to run United Kingdom franchise outlets for Benetton Spa, the Italian group. Another fashion group, Helene of London, was unchanged at 22p after Mr Monty Burkeman, chairman, had forecast "a further increase in profits".

Shares of Hanover Investments (Holdings) were up by 7p to 150p on news of an increase in pretax profits to £453,000 in the year to February 29, against pretax profits of £141,000 for the previous year.

TEMPUS

Reed makes comeback with 58% rise in profit

The City's heart is warming again to Reed International which has had an impressive boardroom line up for some time but has not matched it with equally strong figures.

However, yesterday the group delivered a 58 per cent increase in pretax profits to £96.4m. This is not quite up to the record days of 1980, but the quality of earnings is improving. The group is concentrating on publishing rather than packaging and money-making provincial newspapers rather than cash-hungry nationals.

The share price responded with a 22p jump to 432p. More than half the profits have come from overseas where Reed has between a quarter and a third of its assets. At the trading level, group profits reached a record and a turn-round from £10m losses to £3m profits in decorative products allowed a boast that it now has no big loss-makers.

However, it has a few small ones. In the Mirror Group stable the *Sporting Life* and *The Sunday People* lost money and profits fell from £8.1m to £5.7m. The contribution of the group's Scottish newspapers stopped any further decline.

It will not be Reed's worry for much longer. The date for the flotation of the six-news-paper Mirror Group looks likely to be next month.

Reed had to shift ground here. Problems, still unsolved, of exactly what kind of shape the Mirror will take have delayed the issue beyond this month and Reed now says it will be floated "before September".

Reed has one other problem area: North American Paper, whose trading profit halved from £12.9m to £6.5m. But it has spent £2.5m last year on the Quebec Mill and is confident that firming newspaper prices this year and a reduction in overcapacity should lift its contribution in the current year.

The rest of its operations have all topped the previous year's figures. Publishing was up by 43 per cent.

Net debt was unchanged at £189m, giving a 36 per cent gearing. That was after £81m on capital spending and £22m on acquisitions, which contributed £10m to the total profits.

Expect further acquisitions this year.

At last night's closing price of 432p, the price-earnings ratio of around 7.5 is not demanding and profits this year should see records at the pretax level.

Hanson Trust

The shares of Hanson Trust have outperformed the rest of the stock market for so long that it must be tempting for any investor to take profits. But the group's half-year figures accompanied by the characteristically bullish statement about "excellent" prospects, suggest that once more precisely the opposite reaction is called for.

Pretax profits are up 90 per cent from £33.9m to £64.4m, helped by a £12m first-time contribution from Alders, the remnants of the US stores empire which the group acquired last year.

Economic recovery in Britain and the United States helped virtually all the group's wide spread industrial companies achieve higher profits. Singled out for special attention are the Ever Ready batteries business, which is sponsoring today's Derby, Butterfly Building Materials, and Smith Metals in Britain, and in the United States, the Endicott Johnson shoe company.

The group's half-year balance sheet shows net gearing at a manageable 37 per cent and although since then the ratio has undoubtedly been boosted by the £38m purchase of US Industries, Hanson is still left with considerable flexibility for taking advantage of further acquisition opportunities.

Hanson has no plans for disposing of any of US Industries' constituent parts, but over the coming months it can be expected to adopt a vigorous "hands on" approach to the management of its latest prey and it would not be surprising if it decided to restore the balance sheet to former strengths with a few considerable sales of businesses which do not look like shaping up to the group's demanding 25 per cent return on capital target.

Besides five months of profits from US Industries, Hanson's second-half will also benefit

from a full six-month contribution from London Brick, making group profits of about £130m, against £91.1m before tax, look possible.

This would leave the shares - down 10p at 220p yesterday - on a multiple of about 17 and a yield of 2.8 per cent. For the sort of compounded growth rate over the years ahead, the shares continue to represent good value.

De La Rue

The world debt crisis may be the cause of some concern for the banks but it is posing no problems for De La Rue. As printers of bank notes for over 80 countries around the world, including many in the Third World, it is exposed to the volatility of international economies but it has avoided the had debt problems which have hit many traders.

The group's currency division had a good year and was one of the better performers in its security operations. Both Security Express and De La Rue Systems produced disappointing performances and overall the security business saw profits before interest drop from £26.3m to £22.5m.

Had it not been for a remarkable recovery by the Crosfield Electronics division the group would have struggled to maintain last year's pre-tax profits of £31.6m. The turn-around at Crosfield which turned a trading loss of £5.8m into a profit of £5.5m was enough to increase pretax profits for the year to £37.4m.

The recovery at Crosfield outstripped even the most optimistic expectations. The interim performance was not just sustained but substantially improved and with a track record for its products now established the growth should be maintained in future. Another encouraging aspect of De La Rue's business has been the performance of Faraday, the credit and plastic card company, which was acquired last year.

Yesterday the share price fluctuated as usual with the announcement of results and ended 10p up at 625p. The yield is under 6 per cent but the shares are worth closer examination.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates came down as much as a quarter of a percentage point on the day though closing levels were sometimes a shade off the bottom.

Early buying of sterling certificates of deposit concentrated on the area six months to one year, though this lasted only for about an hour before operators withdrew to await the money supply figures. On the news, "threes" were dealt at 9 1/4 per cent, "sixes" at 9 1/4 per cent and "twelves" at 9 1/4 per cent.

Interbank overnight money mostly traded at 9 1/4 - 9 per cent mostly, though late business saw the rate touch 10 - 9 per cent briefly.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Now that any hope of a rise in interest rates has been virtually extinguished, and after indications of the less than feared rise in Britain money supply, sterling lost ground to the dollar on relatively quiet foreign exchange markets yesterday.

At the close the pound retreated 70 points to 1.3940 against the dollar, but significantly its trade-weighted index was at its lowest level since March 30 last year at the closing figure of 79.3 (79.5 overnight).

The pound however, still showed a gain at the expense of the Deutsche mark at 3.7370 (3.7200).

The dollar in the meantime, gained support from fears that there may be an escalation in the Gulf war conflict.

Monday's higher federal fund rates helped the dollar initially but a reversal in this trend yesterday trimmed the dollar's best rises during the mid-session.

At the 85th Annual General Meeting of

EIS
Group P.L.C.

on 5th June 1984 the Chairman, Mr. M. Q. Walters, reported that in 1983, the

Twelfth Successive
Record Year

- * The profits were UP
- * The dividend was UP
- * The cash and liquid deposits were UP
- * The orders in hand were UP

Results so far this year are on target

1984 is expected to be another
satisfactory year

For the Report and Accounts, write to
The Secretary at 6 Sloane Square, London, SW1W 8EE
or telephone: 01-730 8187

Hopkinsons
Holdings p.l.c.

Results for the year ended 27th January, 1984

	1984	1983	Increase
Turnover	£7,298	£6,511	5
Operating profit	4,842	3,226	50
Profit before taxation	5,019	3,370	49
Profit after taxation	2,944	2,108	40
Dividend	5.65p	5.65p	
Earnings	17.91p	12.78p	40

The final dividend on Ordinary shares and earnings have been calculated on the share capital as increased by the scrip issue approved on the 20th December, 1983. The final dividend is therefore effectively increased by 25%.

The Directors in their Report state:-

The year's sales volume was similar to last year but the changed spread of product sales has, with the increased manufacturing efficiencies achieved by the introduction of further CNC machines, Computer Aided Design (CAD) and appropriate management actions, contributed to the achievement of improved sales margins.

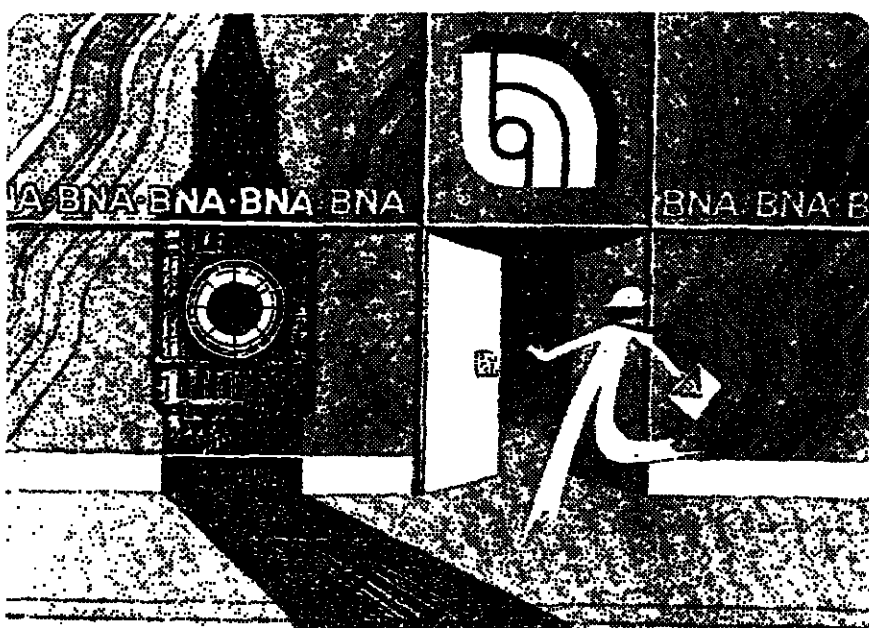
Improved profitability at Hopkinsons and Donkin, the elimination of losses at Blakeborough and the development of the overseas subsidiaries also contributed to the improved results for 1983/84.

The Chairman's Statement includes the following comments:

In my interim statement of October 1983 I expressed the view that higher profits for the year as a whole seemed attainable and the result now before you for the whole year shows an appreciable improvement upon each of the two previous years. I would like to commend to you the diligence and application of the personnel in our Group and to congratulate them on their endeavours which in the figures are made manifest. We have not modified our views in applying strict pay-back standards in capital expenditure on plant, in business acquisitions and the establishment of the decentralised sales and service organisations here and overseas, all of which have met with success. The source and application of funds statement shows that monies have been used in acquiring T. & P. England Limited and in the venture new to us of finance leasing, and the note on current assets shows the substantial amount of short dated deposits and bonds.

In general, worldwide trading conditions have not improved and we are experiencing a reduction in orders with the longer lead times which over the years have helped to cushion the Group against shorter term variations in outside economic influences. The business is becoming more hand to mouth than it used to be. However we continue to trade profitably overall and are concerned to expand wherever our experience and expertise can be gainfully employed.

Hopkinsons Holdings p.l.c., Birkby Grange, Huddersfield HD2 2XB

BNA announces the
opening of a new branch
office in London.
Bringing us closer to you.

Now BNA widens its worldwide operational network. BNA has had a representative office in London since 1970. Now, with the opening of a branch office, BNA adds a further link of its worldwide operation facilities which presently comprises 200 branches in Italy, the New York Branch, and the representative

offices in Frankfurt, Paris, Tokyo, Zurich and more than 1000 correspondents throughout the world. The BNA staff of highly qualified managers is in constant contact with the world's financial centres. Now the new branch office in London is in the position to give full assistance for all your financial and banking

needs and to provide the maximum help with economical and commercial relationships with Italy and the rest of the world. Mr. Paride Di Giorgio, the manager of our new office, is at your service to help you with all your commercial needs. The address of the new branch is 85 Gracechurch Street, Tel. 01-6232773-6232446.

BANCA NAZIONALE DELL'AGRICOLTURA
Licensed deposit Taker

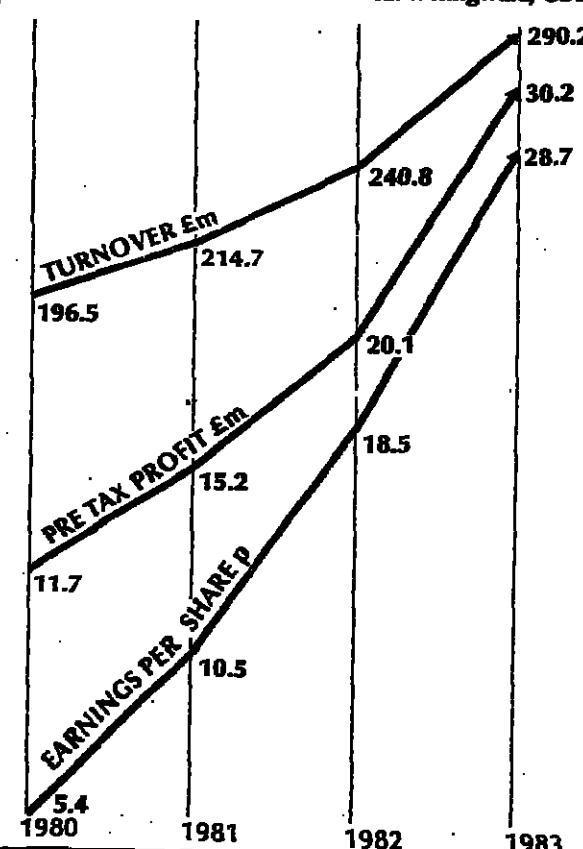
A Bank for all seasons.

Laporte

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman at the Annual General Meeting on June 1, 1984.

- 1984 is continuing in a most satisfactory way....
- Our new businesses are performing superbly, with rapidly increasing importance in profit terms....
- We are achieving our objective: the creation of a major international specialist chemical company, professionally and well managed, with sound and continuing profit growth....

R.M. Ringwald, CBE.




Copies of the 1983 Report and Accounts and of the Chairman's Statement can be obtained from The Secretary, Laporte Industries (Holdings) PLC, 14 Hanover Square, London W1P 0BE.

SPECIALIST CHEMICALS AND RELATED SERVICES-WORLDWIDE

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 4. Dealings End, June 15. \$ Contango Day, June 18. Settlement Day, June 25
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

• Ex dividend. • Ex all. • Forecast dividend. • Corrected price. • Interim payment passed. † Price at suspension. Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. ‡ Bid for company. § Pre-merger figures. • Forecast earnings. • Tax free. • Price adjusted for late dealings. • M

RECENT ISSUES	Coverage Price
BSY Super International Sp Oct (95d)	173
British Group Sp Oct (104d)	175
Commercial Metals of Wales Oct (95d)	175
Five Lowes of London Sp Oct (95d)	175
Floating Japan Inc 50.01 (35)	175
Farmington Japan Oct (114d)	172
Farwell Farms 10p Oct (75d)	122
Hadden Hydronics 10p Oct (75d)	122
Meadow Farm 10p Oct (130d)	129
Hickings Sp Oct (104d)	138
Morris W. Fine Arts Oct (104d)	138
Nick Sea & Co Oct (95d) Oct (105d)	147
Pacificair Sp Oct (90d)	91
Petroleum Petroleum Gas Inc NYP (80d)	81
Petrol Sp Oct (65d)	82
Pharmacia & Co Oct 25p Oct	265
Powerline Inc Oct 10p Oct (105d)	258
Remon Oil Oct 10p Oct (105d)	100
Reynolds Holdings B Oct 17p (75d)	100
Sandwell James J 2p Oct (75d)	103
Seafirst Sp Oct (110d)	112
Sea World Jings Oct 10p Oct (110d)	112
Shelton Int E 25p Oct (95d)	103
Systems Reliability Oct 10p Oct (95d)	130
Ted W & J 2p Oct (143d)	130

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Accountants bar publicity

By Ian Griffiths

The English Institute of Chartered Accountants has rejected a suggestion that it should embark on a nationwide corporate advertising campaign. At yesterday's annual meeting a motion urging consideration of a three-year trial campaign was substantially defeated.

The motion was proposed by Mr Norman Thomas, a member of a small accountancy practice in South Wales. He and many other small practitioners are concerned about the increasing competition accountants are facing from financial insti-

tutions for the provision of financial services. They argued that an advertising campaign would enhance the standing of accountants and demonstrate their skills to the public.

The question of advertising is under review by the institute's council and it is expected to announce a relaxation of the rules which restrict practising accountants' advertising and publicity activities. However, the motion before yesterday's meeting also proposed that a final decision on advertising policy be deferred.

It was this delay that posed the main stumbling block to the motion. Members were reminded that both the Government and the Office of Fair Trading is keen to see a liberalization of the advertising rules and that any delay could result in statutory intervention to force a relaxation.

Mr Tim Smith, an accountant and Tory MP for Beaconsfield, told the meeting: "We cannot ignore the political implications. The Government is determined to promote competition."

British call to end curbs on services

By John Lawless

Britain has submitted a comprehensive study of its international trade in services to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which it hopes will eventually lead to a dismantling of barriers against invisible exports.

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, who announced this yesterday said: "Our first priority is to secure genuine liberalization of trade in services with the European community. I am determined to achieve a real Common Market in services, as well as goods, in accordance with the objectives of the Treaty of Rome."

"But we also welcome the start of work in the wider forum of GATT," he said. "With net earnings by the private sector excluding interest, profits and dividends from abroad - rising to more than £5m last year, Britain has been one of the countries pushing hardest for a freeing of the services business worldwide."

His ambitions, however, are likely to run into a wall of apathy on the part of protectionist developed countries when GATT's 90 signatories meet to discuss the document, and other national studies, in

November. It will also be up against considerable unease from Third World countries that they have much more to lose from the establishment of any "GATT in Services".

Nobody was under any illusions that such a framework could be agreed at the GATT meeting. The liberalization lobby, however, will be seriously disappointed that, so far, only three national studies of trade services have been sent in to the GATT headquarters in Geneva. Besides Britain the US and Canada have also sent in their studies.

GATT, which is struggling to fulfil its present writ, to regulate trade in goods - in spite of commitments from Western leaders at the Williamsburg summit to "roll back" protectionism - has no powers to force governments to carry out surveys of invisibles. It does not know exactly how many other studies are likely to be received before November.

It is likely, for example, that West Germany will be reluctant to ease restrictions which have kept British insurance companies from freely operating in its market. That is regarded as one of the most blatant barriers.

A year of success, Group sales exceed £100m for the first time; profits doubled

FOSTER BROTHERS

FOSTERS

ESQUIRES



DORMIE

MILLETS

NATIONAL SHIRT

ADAMS

"HisPlace"

YOUR PRICE

Sales in new image Fosters branches continue to be impressive. Refurbishment programme now accelerated. All other Group retail companies moving ahead satisfactorily with Natco, in America, now making a profit.

Results in brief

Year ended	1984 (29th Feb.) £000's	1983 (28th Feb.) £000's
Turnover	101,703	82,522
Profit before taxation	8,302	5,039
Dividend per share	4p	3.35p

"The new year has started well with Group sales and results ahead of budget"

Be. Davis
Chairman

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from:

FOSTER BROTHERS Clothing PLC

Head Office: Marshall Lake Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4LH

Treasurer steps up at Shell International

Shell International Petroleum: Mr D. R. Welham, group treasurer, has been made a director.

British Car Auctions: Mr Fabian Hine has become a director. He will continue to head BCA's Farnborough, Hants. branch and will also have responsibility for the new Blackbushe complex, which will be opened next year.

Pinsent & Co: Mr C. Sean Lippell has been taken into partnership.

Code of Advertising Practice Committee: Mr Anthony Bracking has been appointed vice-chairman and chairman-elect of the committee for four years.

Equity & Law Group: Mr John Smith, chief investment manager, has been elected a director. Following Mr Norman Benz's retirement from the board and from the boards of three subsidiary companies, the following changes have been made: Equity & Law (Managed Funds): Mr Martin Harris (deputy chairman of the parent company) has become a director. Equity & Law Unit Trust

Managers: Mr Michael Burns (general manager and director of the parent) has become chairman. Mr Gordon Price (an investment manager) has been elected a director. The Law Reversionary Interest Society: Mr Burns has been appointed chairman. Mr John Chatterton (secretary of the company and a deputy actuary of the parent) has been elected a director.

Ricardo Consulting Engineers: Dr D. H. C. Taylor has been made managing director in place of Mr D. Downs who remains chairman. Mr G. H. Harker has been appointed finance director, but will continue as secretary to the company. Mr M. T. Overington has joined the board. Mr C. C. J. French has succeeded Mr Downs as chairman of the subsidiary G. Cussons.

M & R-Martini & Rossi: Mr A. S. Hill has joined the board as communication director, responsible for the development of advertising and marketing policies for the British company.

Mercantile: Mr J. M. Brady has become financial director. Gilbert Elliott & Company: Mr E. r. Corben will be resigning from the partnership on June 30 and Mr E. S. Derbyshire will be joining it on July 1. Mr Corben will remain associated with the firm.

Maynards: Mr David Bradford has joined the board. Mr Bradford, chief executive, manufacturing division, will continue to take responsibility for the division.

Ocean Marine Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association: Mr L. A. Watts has joined the board as chairman.

Coalite Group: Sir John Sparrow, a director of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, has rejoined the board of Coalite as a non-executive director.

SABOTEUR PARTICIPATIONS NV
Notice is hereby given that an interim dividend amounting to US\$ 4,522,500.54 (US\$ 2.46 per share) was declared on 30th May 1984 and shall be payable on 6th June 1984. Holders of shares shall be entitled to receive their dividend upon presentation of coupon number 5 to the offices of J. Henry Schroder Wagn & Co. Limited, Coupon Department, 120 Chestnut Street, London EC2N 2DL, between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted). The dividend on registered shares will be sent by mail to the shareholders.
Signed: Henry Schroder Wagn & Co. N.V.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9 1/4%
BCCL	9 1/4%
Chubbank Savings	9 1/4%
Consolidated Crds	9 1/4%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9 1/4%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/4%
Chubbank NA	9 1/4%

† Mortgage rates from 10% to 12%
* 7 day deposits on terms of tender £10,000, 6% £10,000 up to £250,000, 6 1/2% £250,000 and over, 7 1/2%.

Notice to holders of Montana Power International Finance NV Bearer Securities

Copies of the Annual Reports of Montana Power International Finance NV and The Montana Power Company and the Montana Power Company Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K are available upon request from:

The Montana Power Company
Attn: Russell J. Cox
48 East Broadway,
Butte, Montana 59701
USA



The De La Rue Company p.l.c.

A satisfactory year

"The prospects for the business as a whole are brighter than for some time past, and this is due in no small part to the resurgence of Crosfield Electronics. Order books are generally in good condition and, subject to the continuing risks of international trading, the Board is looking for a further advance in profitability in the current year."

Sir Arthur Norman, KBE, DFC.
Chairman

Main Features of the Year 1983/84

Once again the Company's trading pattern has as predicted twelve months ago, produced much larger profits in the second half of the year to 31 March 1984 than in the first six months. The overall result, a profit before tax for the year of £37.4 million, can be regarded as satisfactory for a business like ours which is highly export-oriented, since the economic situations of many of the countries with which we trade have not improved during the past year, and in many cases they have deteriorated. Furthermore, by contrast with 1982/83, no significant write-backs of provisions made in earlier years are included in the figures for 1983/84.

The dominant feature of the year under review has been a spectacular turnaround in the fortunes of the Crosfield Electronics Division, which has turned the trading loss of £5.8 million recorded last year into a profit of £5.5 million. This remarkable performance, after three years of poor results, has enabled the Group as a whole to resume the upward trend of profitable growth which we were showing a few years ago.

The Security side has met with mixed fortunes. The Currency Division finished the year strongly but only after having had to incur the pain and expense last November of stopping production at its factory in Dublin, representing about a quarter of its capacity, as the direct result of the lack of world demand. The results of Security Express and De La Rue Systems were disappointing, but the net outcome from the Security Systems Print Division attained an acceptable level. There were good performances from Brazil and Faraday National, and excellent ones from Colombia and De La Rue Printrak.

The Singapore factory of the Currency Division began operations at the New Year. Construction of the Hong Kong plant is on schedule and it is expected to start producing at the end of the current calendar year. The business of J. Brevitt, specialists in two/three day parcels delivery, was acquired in July last year, and made a significant contribution to the Courier side of Security Express in the year under review.

Capital expenditure at the record level of £18.1 million, leaving aside acquisitions, was a major element in a cash outflow for the year of £8.0 million, which had the effect of making the Company, by a small margin, a net borrower of funds for the first time for some years. This is in turn reflected in the Profit and Loss account, where interest paid supersedes interest received.

Expenditure on Research and Development has risen substantially, particularly in the increasing number of Divisions which are using high technology, where the pace of change is rapid. This is an area in which in our view the quality of the effort is much more important than the quantity and, difficult though it is to achieve, our priority is therefore to attract and retain a relatively small number of people of high calibre.

Exports from the UK of the Company's products reached a new record level at £142 million. Orders in hand as we entered the current financial year were at a very satisfactory level.

Results for the year to 31st March 1984

	1984 £000	1983 £000
Turnover		
U.K.	63,049	54,353
Export (including sales to overseas Group companies)	141,887	123,387
Overseas (after adjusting for inter-company sales)	66,867	48,166
	271,803	225,906
Trading profit before interest	28,125	20,545
Net interest (payable/receivable)	(464)	2,107
Trading profit	27,661	22,652
Share of profits of related companies	9,698	8,996
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	37,359	31,648
Taxation	12,141	11,444
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	25,218	20,204
Minority interests	1,945	1,915
Profit before extraordinary items attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.	23,273	18,289
Extraordinary loss (after taxation)	(5,351)	(3,222)
Profit for the financial year	17,922	15,067
Dividends	9,530	8,959
Amount set aside to reserves	8,392	6,108
Earnings per Ordinary share (before extraordinary items)	61.1p	48.0p
Trading profit as a percentage of turnover	10.2%	10.0%

Proposed final dividend 18.40p net per share (1983 16.90p net)

The figures for the year to 31 March 1984 are abridged from the Group's full accounts for that period, which have received an unqualified auditors' opinion and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

Copies of the Preliminary Report and Chairman's Statement are available from The Secretary, De La Rue House, Burlington Gardens, London W1A 1DL.

Laying the groundwork for a successful future.

Like many companies in Britain, particularly those in the construction sector, the recession of recent years has presented us with many problems and challenges, both at home and overseas.

But, I am pleased to assure you that your Board and management are meeting these challenges with energy and determination.

In the developing world, and particularly Latin America, both our Mexican and Chilean companies are resolving their difficulties. They have succeeded in re-financing their capital structures and are now trading profitably.

We have improved the balance of stability in our overseas investments by the major acquisition of a stake in the North American cement and concrete industry. The return on the investment made in the United States a year ago has materially exceeded our expectations at that time.

Your Board has taken a decision to expand our activities in the United States by spending a total of \$23m on new manufac-

the year will turn out depending, as we do, on many factors outside our control.

In the UK, while imports remain a threat, Blue Circle is the only national cement company which markets and distributes cement throughout the country. This enables us to provide our customers with an unsurpassed level of service in delivery, guaranteed quality and technical back-up.

We continue to improve the productivity of our operations by heavy capital expenditure. This means some increase in our borrowing levels, and in addition there are financial costs of redundancies. But we are certain that the benefits from this improved productivity are essential for the future of the UK business, and that we and our customers will reap the benefits of them in future years.

Blue Circle

Blue Circle Industries PLC
For copies of the full text of the Chairman's Statement and the Company's Report and Accounts, please write to Group Public Affairs, Blue Circle Industries PLC, Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BJ

Points from the address by the Chairman Mr I. D. Milne to the Annual General Meeting on June 5.

turing capacity for sanitary ware - including an ultra-modern plant in North Carolina. We are confident that, in this particular industry, this will represent a further advance in technology in North America.

The weakness of export prices for cement and the economic problems in parts of the developing world, particularly Nigeria, have also affected our export business. But we are hopeful of improvement during the year.

Overall, I am pleased to say that present indications overseas are that we shall see an improvement in earnings in most of the important areas in which we operate - although it would be difficult to forecast exactly how

DERBY FIELD

3.30 DERBY STAKES (Group 1, 3-y-o, 222,880, 1m 4f) (18 runners)	
301 311-11 ALPHABETIM (D) (K Abdullah) G Harwood 9-0	L Piggott 15
(Green, Pink Cap & Sash, White Sleeves)	
302 12-23 AT TALAQ (D) (Hadi Al-Tajer) Thomson Jones 9-0	R Hills 9
(Royal Blue, White Sleeves, Striped Cap)	
303 04-3134 CATALDI (K Abdullah) G Harwood 9-0	A Clark 17
(Green, Pink Cap & Sash, White Sleeves, White Cap)	
304 1-11 CLAUDE MONET (D) (Wildestein) H Cecil 9-0	S Cauthen 16
(Royal Blue, Light Blue Epaullets & Cap)	
305 1241-10 CREAG-AN-SGOR (Mrs W Tulloch) C Nelson 9-0	NON-RUNNER 12
(Cariss, White Cross-Belts, Black Cap White Star)	
306 1241-00 ELEGANT AIR (P Mellon) Baking 9-0	B Raymond 13
(Black, Gold Cross & Stripe on Cap)	
309 1111-11 EL GRAN SENOR (R Sangster) M V O'Brien (ire) 9-0	Pat Eddery 10
(Emerald Green, Royal Blue Sleeves, White Cap Green Spots)	
312 23-41 ILIUM (D) (Hadi Al-Tajer) Thomson Jones 9-0	A Murray 2
(White, Maroon Braces & Cap)	
313 33-31 KAYTU (R Khan) W Harn 9-0	W Carson 5
(Yellow, Red Seams, Red Cap)	
314 210 LONG POND (D) (P Kelleway) 9-0	G Duffield 7
(Yellow, Green Star, Red & White Quartered Cap)	
315 0-41 MIGHTY FLUTTER (R Tord) D Ewerth 9-0	B Rouse 8
(Black & Yellow Diamonds, Black Collar, Red & Yellow Hooped Cap)	
318 4212-4 MY VOLGA BOATMAN (Col F Hae-Williams) M Stoute 9-0	W R Swinburn 4
(White, Scarlet V & Cap)	
317 1222-00 NORTHERN DANCER (P Mellon) C Nelson 9-0	G Moore 1
(Red, Green Braces, Red Cap, Red Hoop)	
316 61-30 PIGWIDGON (Mrs J Dalal) G Harwood 9-0	G Starkey 18
(Brown, Yellow Collar & Cap, Halved Sleeves)	
319 00-030 SASSANOCO (Khalid Al-Tajer) Thomson Jones 9-0	T Rogers 3
(White, Maroon Braces, Hooped Cap)	
320 1-13 SECRETO (L Mighell) D V O'Brien (ire) 9-0	C Roche 14
(Yellow, Blue Diamonds, Yellow Sleeves, White Cap Blue Spots)	
321 420-0 SHEER HEIGHTS (F Selman) P Cole 9-0	P Cook 11
(Dark Green)	
322 13-30 TELIOS (Mrs H Camberis) B Hobbs 9-0	G Baxter 8
(Black, White Spots on Body & Sleeves)	

4-5 El Gran Senor, 7-2 Alphabetim, 12 Kaytu, 14 Secreto, Claude Monet, 16 Ilium, 40 My Volga Boatman, ELEGANT AIR, 66 Mighty Flutter, Northern Dancer, 100 others.

Form for the 17 contenders

ALPHABETIM (9-0) beat Get The Message (9-0) an easy 8f (Lingfield 1m 4f, 226,072, good May 12, 5 ran). Previously (9-0) stayed on, beat Trojan Fen (8-7) 2 1/2 (Sandown 1m 2f, 219,950, good to firm, Apr 28, 8 ran). Last season (9-0) beat Mendax (9-0) 1/2 (Windsor 1m 2f, 219,950, good to firm, Apr 28, 8 ran). 246,528, good to firm, Oct 22. AT TALAQ (9-0) 3rd of 11 to Walter (9-0) (Capannelle 1m 4f, 241,175, heavy May 13). CATALDI (9-0) 4th of 10 to Straight Man (8-11) (Chester 1m 2f, 23,454, good to firm, May 8). CLAUDE MONET (9-0) ran on, beat Hatim (9-0) a head with ELEGANT AIR (9-0) 6th, beaten 2 1/2. LONG POND (9-0) 7th, PIGWIDGON (9-0) 8th and TELIOS (9-0) 11th of 15 (York 1m 2 1/2, 232,420, good to firm, May 18). Previously (9-0) beat Raami (9-0) a head with PIGWIDGON (9-0) 3rd, beaten 3 1/2 and ILIUM (9-0) 4th of 8, beaten 6 1/2 (Newmarket 1m 2f, 28,798, good to firm, May 3). Last season (9-0) beat Coudes Queen (8-9) 1/2 (Doncaster 7f, 21,490, good, Oct 21, 14 ran). CREAG-AN-SGOR (9-0) 2nd of 11 to Walter (9-0) previously (9-0) beat Defeating Dancer (9-0) 1/2 (Newbury 7f, 215,512, good, Apr 14, 8 ran). EL GRAN SENOR (9-0) comfortably beat Chief Singer (9-0) 2 1/2 in 2000 Guineas with CREAG-AN-SGOR (9-0) 7th of 9, beaten 17 1/2 (Newmarket 8f, 237,408, firm, May 5). Previously (9-0) beat Sadler's Wells (9-0) 2 1/2 (Curragh 7f, 21,424, good to firm, Apr 14, 8 ran). Last season (9-0) beat Rainbow Quest (9-0) 1/2 (Newmarket 7f, 244,215, good, Oct 14, 10 ran). ILIUM (9-0) ridden out, beat Prime Asset (8-6) 1/2 with MY VOLGA BOATMAN (9-0) 11th, hampered, 4th beaten 7 1/2. SHEER HEIGHTS (9-0) 5th beaten 8 1/2 and SASSANOCO (9-0) last of 12 (Goodwood 1m 4f, 212,590, good to soft, May 22, KAYTU (9-0) on on, beat Alleging (9-0) 3 (Chester 1m 4f, 217,684, good to firm, May 8, 7 ran). Previously (9-0) 3rd of 15 to Walter (9-0) 3rd of 15 to Walter (9-0) (Newbury 8f, 22,893, good, Apr 14). Last season (9-0) 11th of 14 to Corin (9-0) (Newbury 8f, 24,036, good, Oct 22). LONG POND behind CLAUDE MONET last time, previously (8-6) beat Tial By Error (8-9) a short head with ELEGANT AIR (9-0) 11th of 11, beaten 2 1/2 (Epsom 8 1/2, 224,318, good to firm, Apr 10). MIGHTY FLUTTER (9-0) 11th of 11 to Walter (9-0) 11th (Newbury 1m 3f, 22,784, good, May 19, 20 ran). MY VOLGA BOATMAN behind ILIUM last time, previously (9-0) 2 1/2 of 7 to ELEGANT AIR (9-0) (Newbury 7f, 221,474, good, Oct 20). NORTHERN DANCER (9-0) beat Bator (9-0) a short head but subsequently relegated to 2nd (Capannelle 1m 2f, 222,647, soft, May 27, 7 ran). Previously (9-0) 1st of 7 to Tial By Error (8-9) a short head to soft, May 13). SECRETO (9-0) kept on same pace, 3 1/2 of 9 to Sadler's Wells (Curragh 8f, 233,898, firm, May 19). Previously (8-7) beat Without Reserve (9-0) 3 (Curragh 7f, 28,150, good to firm, Apr 28, 7 ran). Last season (9-0) beat Antiklos (8-10) 2 1/2 (Phoenix Park 7f, 2380, good to soft, Oct 18, 7 ran). TELIOS behind CLAUDE MONET last time, previously (8-7) 7 1/2 of 5 to Lear Fan (8-12) (Newmarket 8f, 21,174, good to firm, Apr 17). Selection: EL GRAN SENOR each way; SECRETO.

Lester Piggott's 33-year record

Year	Mount	Finishing position	Odds	Runners
1951	ZUCCHERO	2nd	25-1	33
1952	GAY TIME	2nd	25-1	33
1953	PRINCE CHARLEMAGNE	unplaced	66-1	27
1954	NEVER SAY DIE	won	33-1	22
1955	WINDSOR SUN	unplaced	33-1	23
1956	AFFILIATION ORDER	unplaced	33-1	27
1957	CREPE	unplaced	50-1	20
1958	BOCCACCIO	unplaced	50-1	20
1959	CARNOSTIE	6th	10-1	20
1960	ST PADDY	won	7-1	17
1961	no ride			
1962	no ride			
1963	CORPORA	5th	100-8	26
1964	SWEET MOSS	unplaced	100-8	17
1965	MEADOW COURT	2nd	10-1	22
1966	RIGHT NOBLE	unplaced	9-2	25
1967	RIBOCCO	2nd	22-1	23
1968	SIR IVOR	5th	4-1	23
1969	RIBOCCO	5th	4-1	26
1970	NIJINSKY	won	11-8	11
1971	THE PARSON	6th	16-1	21
1972	ROBERTO	won	3-1	22
1973	CAVO DORO	2nd	12-1	25
1974	ARTHURIAN	14th	16-1	18
1975	BRUNO	14th	16-1	18
1976	EMPERY	won	5-1	22
1977	THE MINSTREL	won	5-1	22
1978	INKERMAN	21st	4-1	25
1979	MILFORD	14th	15-2	23
1980	NONTEVERDI	14th	8-1	24
1981	SHOTGUN	4th	7-1	18
1982	NO RIDE			
1983	TEENOSO	won	9-2	21

Facts and figures

- The Derby dates back to 1780, when the first winner was Sir Charles Bunbury's Diomed. It was run over a mile until 1784.
- The last three winners: Shergar, Golden Fleece and Teenoso, have all started favourites. El Gran Senor is bidding to be the first horse to complete the 2,000 Guineas-Derby double since Nijinsky in 1970.
- Lester Piggott has the best record of all time in the Derby having ridden the winner 9 times. Others riding in the race with previous victories are Pat Eddery (2), Greville Starkey (1), Willie Carson (2), Troy, Henbit, Walter Swinburn (Shergar) and Greville Starkey (Shirley Heights).
- The last 10-1 winner was Aboueyr, who was awarded the race on the disqualification of Cragenour in 1913. Faidum at 66-1 was the longest priced post-war winner.
- The winning owner will receive record prize money of £227,580 in this, the first-ever sponsored Derby. Henbit's win in the 200th Derby in 1980 won £166,820, until now a record.
- If El Gran Senor, Vincent O'Brien will equal the trainers' record of seven Derby victories held by Robert Robson, John Porter and Fred Darling.
- The only losing odds-on favourite since the war was Tudor Minstrel, fourth at 7-4 in 1947.

Oaks field

The 17 declared runners for Saturday's Oaks at Epsom, with riding arrangements are: Amalee, Camden Milly (G Duffield), Circus Puma, (L Piggott), Easy To Copy, Green Rock, Kaniz (G Starkey), Malaak (W Shoemaker), Media Luna (P Cook), Mildred, Miss Beaulieu, Optimistic Lass (W R Swinburn), Our Shirley, Our Girl Shot (S Eddery), Poquito Queen (S Cauthen), Real Gold, Ruff's Luck, Spinelle (A Clark).

Francome wins

John Francome, who was twice unplaced at Stronsholm on Sunday, ended his visit to Sweden on a high note by riding Fagot to win at Taby on Monday night. Fagot had run the race of his life the previous Monday to be second in an important flat event at 139-1. Not surprisingly, he was 9-10 for this novice hurdle and with Francome saving ground on the

inside all the way, he cantered past by an easy two lengths from Ready Token. Francome, who returned home yesterday, spent Monday morning at Solvalla raceway, a trotting track, and drove a horse in fast work with two others. It was the first time he had sat in a sulky.

O'Brien's award

Vincent O'Brien, looking for his seventh Epsom Derby winner today with El Gran Senor, has been named the first Piper Champagne "Trainer of the Month" on the Flat, following the colt's brilliant 2,000 Guineas victory.

● Little Wolf, winner of last year's Ascot Gold Cup and a leading contender for this year's long distance events, has had to be retired. The six-year-old made a promising reappearance in the Henry 2 Stakes at Sandown last Tuesday, finishing third to Harvi, but was found afterwards to have sprained a tendon and will not be able to run again.

Racing: O'Brien and son could make Derby history by saddling first and second

El Gran Señor can rank among the greats

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

After that fine performance by Sadler's Wells in the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) at Chantilly on Sunday, no one should be surprised if El Gran Senor and Secretariat fill the first two places in the Derby, which is being sponsored for the first time at Epsom this afternoon by Ever Ready Limited. If that happens another piece of racing history will be made because they are trained by a father and son, Vincent and David O'Brien.

In napping El Gran Senor to win from Secretariat, it is best banking

earlier this year and on the gallops at Ballydoyle, too. What only today's race will tell is whether they are as good as that over the extra distance. Nobody, not even their respective trainers, can be certain, but the feeling abides in both camps that they are blessed with the right blend of speed and stamina.

Both are by the great American stallion Northern Dancer, who has already sired two Derby winners, Nijinsky and The Minstrel, as well as last year's Irish Derby hero, Shereef

Señor himself because he has such a good temperament and is so athletic that you can, in the jockey's words, "put him anywhere at a time in a race." And Eddery himself is not exactly short of know-how, having already won the Derby on Grundy and Golden Fleece.

By winning on soft ground as well as on firm, El Gran Senor has shown himself to be splendidly adaptable and I confidently expect him to prove that he is exceptional by winning today's great prize. The way that Secretariat was running on at the end of the Irish 2,000 indicated that he would be more effective over today's distance. What he lacks, though, is El Gran Senor power of acceleration.

Those in search of a long shot could do worse than back My Volga Boatman each way at around 40-1. He is trained by Michael Stoute, whose Newmarket stable has been in such fine form of late, which is more than can be said of the yard which houses the second favourite, Alphabetim. Stoute and his talented young jockey, Walter Swinburn, were the brains behind Shergar three years ago.

After My Volga Boatman had finished fourth behind Ilium in the Predominate Stakes at Goodwood last month, Swinburn insisted that he would just about have won if he had not been hampered badly and nearly brought down at the top of the hill. It was impossible, however, to verify his tale of woe by watching a replay of the race because the course was shrouded in mist. By all accounts, My Volga Boatman has improved since that race.

What is certain is that today's race will be run at a tremendous lick from the word go because both Alphabetim and Ilium have pace-makers (Cataldi and Sassanoco) to ensure gallop that will expose a chink in the favourite's armour, if there is such a thing.

By winning over a mile and a half at Lingfield and Goodwood respectively, Alphabetim and Ilium have shown that they have the requisite "stamina." What they have still to show is that they are capable of carrying the sort of thrust that Eddery can deliver on El Gran Senor.



Classic power: El Gran Señor strides home from Chief Singer in last month's 2,000 Guineas to stretch his unbeaten run to six

At Doncaster last autumn there was less than a length between Alphabetim and Ilium at the end of the William Hill Futurity, so there should not be much between them now if they run true to form. However, that form still does not read as well as El Gran Senor's this spring, or last autumn for that matter.

What of the remainder? Like El Gran Senor, Claude Monet is unbeaten, but unlike the favourite he has failed to impress this season. He is bred for the job, but for some reason a mile and a quarter looks just about his limit. Also the narrowness of his victories indicates that his form is not good enough, a point underlined by the failure in France on Sunday of Head For

Heights who finished only a length behind him at York. Kayta, from the stable that came up trumps with Troy and Henbit, won the Chester Vase, which has been a reliable guide in recent years. This season, though, it looked rather sub-standard. It will come as a great surprise if any of the others are good enough to get involved

Piggott and Cecil to split

By Michael Seely

Lester Piggott and Henry Cecil, the leading Newmarket trainers, are to part company at the end of the season. The 67-year-old champion jockey will be riding freelance in 1985. It is understood that Steve Cauthen, the 24-year-old American jockey, who has been retained for the next six seasons by Barry Hills, the Lambourn trainer, will be engaged as the new contract rider with Warren Place.

"There is no question of my retirement," Piggott said yesterday. "I will go freelance next year. The split was inevitable since my rift with Mr Daniel Wildestein. And I feel that it is the best thing for all concerned."

This rift occurred before last autumn's Prix d'Europe. Mr Wildestein understood that Piggott had accepted the mount on All Along, but the jockey denied that any firm commitment had been

made. "No man alive can treat me like that and get away with it," the enraged Parisian art millionaire said. "Piggott will never ride for me again." In the event Walter Swinburn rode All Along to victory not only in Paris, but also in the filly's three victories in North America.

Cauthen said at Salisbury yesterday: "I have had six great seasons with Barry and felt I would like to make a change." Hills commented: "Naturally I am terribly disappointed. Steve's been with me for nearly six seasons and I have no plans to replace him at the moment."

The irony of the whole situation is that it is because of Piggott's split with Mr Wildestein that he has been free to take the mount of Alphabetim in this afternoon's Derby. Cauthen, of course, is riding the less-fancied Claude Monet for Cecil and Mr Wildestein.

on classic form instead of relying on the form of classic trials. I am also banking upon both being as effective over a mile and a half as they have already proved to be over a mile. That victory in the 2,000 Guineas was proof of El Gran Senor's exceptional ability.

Secretariat ran an excellent race in the equivalent Irish classic to finish third, about a length behind Sadler's Wells. That points to him running really well this afternoon without actually being good enough to beat El Gran Senor, who has always shown himself to be superior to Sadler's Wells in Ireland, both on the racecourse where they finished first and second in the Gladness Stakes

Dancer. There is arguably more stamina in the bottom half of Secretariat's pedigree than there is in El Gran Senor's as he is out of a half-sister to the French Derby winner, Caraculora, by the American Triple Crown winner, Secretariat. However, El Gran Senor is out of a mare by Buckpasser, who has always been regarded as a strong influence in the United States as far as stamina is concerned.

And that is a pedigree which fits the bill. One man who has no qualms about El Gran Senor's pedigree is his jockey, Pat Eddery, and that is an important factor because it is vital for the pilot to be brimful of confidence on occasions like these. Eddery's confidence stems from El Gran

Michael Seely's A to Z guide to the big-race runners

ALPHABETIM. bc. Verbatim - Morning Games (Grey Dawn II)

Marvelous chance mount for Lester Piggott. Expect to see the 48-year-old all-time Epsom genius make an early break for gold on Grey Dawn's resolute gallop as the jockey seeks to claim his tenth Derby triumph and equal Frank Buckle's record of 27 classic victories. Tough, courageous and by no means devoid of speed. Looks certain to be placed if recent stable lean spell can be disregarded.

AT TALAQ. bc. Roberts - My Nord (Gent Du Nord)

Richard Hills rides Tom Jones's second string to Ilium showed stamina and courage to finish second over course and distance in Warren Stakes but should not be good enough.

CATALDI. bc. Waver Hollow - Geronza (Herero)

Tony Clark takes the mount on Alphabetim's pace-maker. A devastating performance in the 2,000 Guineas immediately stamped Robert Sangster's superbly relaxed athlete as being cast in the same mould as Secretariat and Nijinsky.

CLAUDE MONET. ch. Affirmed - Madella (Cap)

Steve Cauthen bids for first Derby placing on the unbeaten tall, lanky son of the 23-year-old

American jockey's 1978 American Triple Crown partner. Quickened nicely before claiming York's Mecca-Dante Stakes narrowly from Hatim. Unlike Wollow and Hello Gorgeous, Henry Cecil's previously strongly fancied big-race candidate will not fail for lack of stamina, but needs to find at least 7lb.

ELEGANT AIR. bc. Shirley Heights - Elegant

Tough and experienced representative of Paul Mellon and Ian Balding, previously successful in 1971 with Mill Reef. Staying on when close sixth in Mecca-Dante Stakes but lacks the ability to quicken, in this company. Will be strongly and capably ridden by the 41-year-old Bruce Raymond.

EL GRAN SENOR. bc. Northern Dancer - Sex

Appeal (Buckpasser) A devastating performance in the 2,000 Guineas immediately stamped Robert Sangster's superbly relaxed athlete as being cast in the same mould as Secretariat and Nijinsky.

Steve Cauthen bids for first Derby placing on the unbeaten tall, lanky son of the 23-year-old

ILIUM. bc. Troy - Glamour Girl (Riverman)

Tony Murray, previously third on Giacometti and second on Dickens Hill - bids to complement Tom Jones for the Newmarket trainer's 1982 defeat with Touching Wood on the handsome son of 1979 winner, Troy. Rewarded trainer's patience and confirmed two-year-old promise when beating Prime Asset in Goodwood's Predominate Stakes. Sure to run well, but lacks top mile-and-a-half pace.

KAYTU. bc. High Top - Arawak (Semine II)

Attempting to become third Chester Vase winner in past five years to capture Derby. Showed dramatic improvement when producing a strong late run to overwhelm Alleging and Falstaff. Is quietly fancied by Britain's outstanding classic trainer, Dick Hern, who together with Willie Carson will be bidding for a third big-race

win. Sure to get the trip and holds a sound each-way chance.

LONG POND. bc. Rarity - Raindrops (King's

Troop) Paul Kelleway's gallant Blue Riband stables winner was subsequently reported to have been struck into when finishing a disappointing seventh to Claude Monet in Mecca-Dante. "At least he's won over the course," says the flamboyant Newmarket trainer. Sure to be well ridden by the strong and determined George Duffield.

MIGHTY FLUTTER. bc. Rolfe - Lettace (So

Blessed) David Elsworth's dark horse is a half-brother to the stable's 1983 Lincoln Handicap and Royal Hunt Cup winner, Mighty Fly. Having only the third race of his career when landing a gamble in competitive Newbury maiden. Has only outside chance for continuing Brian Rouse's magnificent season.

MY VOLGA BOATMAN. bc. Riverman - Belle

Forella (Ribot) Good outsider for the formidable (Shergar) team of Michael Stoute and Walter Swinburn. Reportedly nearly brought down before finishing fourth to Ilium in misty-shrouded Predominate Stakes at Goodwood. In opinion of jockey, "Would nearly have won, so may represent sound value as his colour and price of 40-1."

NORTHERN DANCER. bc. Northern Dancer - Not

What It Seems (Sham) Busy and much travelled French trained three-year-old with two early-season victories to his credit at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Recently demoted to second place after winning at Rome in May. Form hope for jockey Gary Moore, son of 1967 hero, George.

PIGWIDGON. bc. For The Moment - Ghost

Rider (Gray Phantom) Greville Starkey, not yet 100 per cent fit after his Kempton accident, steps down to Alphabetim to ride stable strong string. Third in Newmarket's Heath Stakes but likely to be outclassed.

SASSANOCO. bc. Nomesco - Sassanico

(Assafra) As at Goodwood, Trevor Roger rides Ilium's pace-maker.

SECRETO. bc. Northern Dancer - Milly's

Secret (Secretariat) David O'Brien, having won the French and Irish Derbies in 1982 with Asser, now bids for a treble with recent Irish 2,000 Guineas close third to Sadler's Wells. Backed to win £250,000 on Monday. Ran as if needed further at the Curragh and represented classic form. Christy Roche

SHEER HEIGHTS. bc. Shirley Heights -

Sheer Bliss (St Paddy) Last seasons European champion apprentice, Richard Quinn, partners Paul Cole's promising son of 1978 winner. Staying on well when fifth to Ilium at Goodwood and looks sure to win races, but should not be good enough here.

TELIOS. ch. M. Mill Reef - Stivi (Derring-do)

The seventh foal of the remarkable Silv, Telios is a half brother to Tachypous, Tolmi and the 1980 Irish Derby winner, Tynamos. Respectable third to Lear Fan in Craven Stakes, and was badly hampered when disappointing behind Claude Monet at York.

MY FINAL VERDICT 1, EL GRAN SENOR

(nap), 2, Alphabetim, 3, My Volga Boatman.

Michael Stoute, who trains My Volga Boatman



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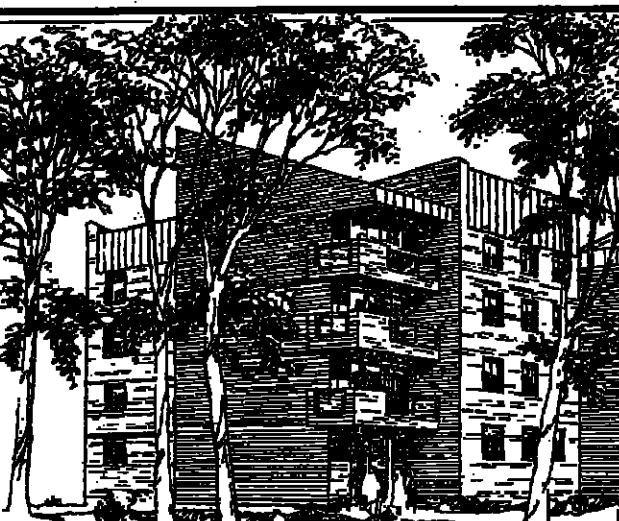
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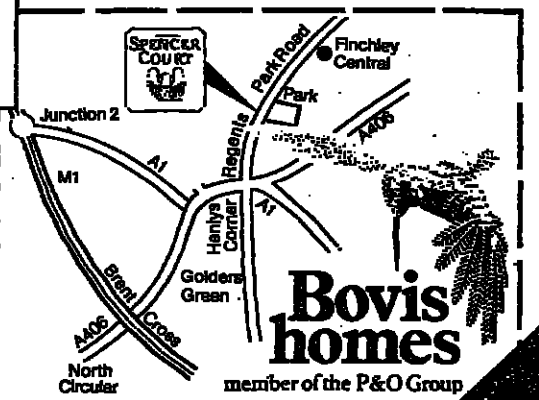


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ATTRACTION FILM, SW6

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By Christopher Warman
Property correspondent

Barns are a suitable case for conversion, and the increasing demand for them indicates that private individuals and developers alike share this view. An auction by Jackson-Stops and Staff at Moreton-in-Marsh in the Cotswolds last week illustrates the point and shows that the builder/developer does not always have the advantage over the individual.

One of the main lots was Holly Bush barns, at Broad Campden near Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, a listed Cotswold barn and traditional buildings with planning permission for conversion into one dwelling. Situated in about one acre, the main barn is 68 feet by 19 feet with a stable of about 30 feet by 18 feet nearby. Detailed planning permission for the barn provides a dwelling with four bedrooms, three bathrooms, drawing room, dining room and kitchen.

The initial guide price was £40,000 plus, but interest during marketing convinced Jackson-Stops and Staff that it could reach £50,000. At auction it went for £55,000 to a private buyer. That is quite a lot for a derelict barn, especially when - according to Peter Britton of Jackson-Stops and Staff - the conversion could cost up to £100,000.

Another property, the Old Bakery at Broadwell, Stow-on-the-Wold, which includes two unrestored cottages and a spacious Cotswold barn in one acre, again with high conversion potential, had a guide price of £75,000. It went for £107,000. This property interested a lot of builders and developers, who saw the possibility of a courtyard development, and they bid keenly. But after doing their sums and taking into account their need to make a profit, they can go only so high, and by the time the bidding reached £100,000 private buyers had left them behind.

Awaiting consent

Mr Britton explained that if a private buyer is interested solely in the property for conversion for his or her own use as a home, he can often outbid the builder or developer, but he added that conversion is expensive and "always costs more than you expect. So the buyer has to do his own sums carefully."

The Old Bakery, like Holly Bush barns, was listed, as are many barns around the country. Now that VAT has been imposed on building alterations and improvements - with the exception of listed buildings - after the Government bowed to pressure to exempt them - listed buildings of all

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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

A barnyard scramble for old buildings to convert



The barn and outbuildings at Manor Farm Barn, Greatford, near Stamford, Lincolnshire, "ripe for conversion" and for sale through Strutt and Parker's Grantham office at around £25,000

sorts, including barns, will have that added attraction. On an expensive conversion, a saving of 15 per cent VAT is a valuable incentive, and Mr Britton believes the prices at auction in part reflected this benefit.

The demand for barns noted by Jackson-Stops and Staff in the north Cotswolds is matched elsewhere. John D. Wood sold a small timber-framed listed barn at Langford, near Maldon, Essex, for more than the guide price of £30,000, while Stratton and Holborn saw a barn at St Clement, Truro, Cornwall, sold at auction, quickly fetching £33,000 after bidding opened at £20,000.

Last month R. H. and R. W. Clutton auctioned four barns among other property on the Wiston Estate, West Sussex, and all went for appreciably more than the guide price, fetching between £28,000 and £48,000. All await planning consent for conversion, but in general local authorities look sympathetically on plans to make a single dwelling out of a barn. This is particularly so in the case of listed barns, where such a change of use is seen as the best way of preserving the building.

By coincidence, Jackson-Stops and Staff have for sale examples of the "finished product", barns which have been converted - one of them a single dwelling and the other a small development.

College Barn, at Temple Guiting near Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, was originally sold to an architect, who converted it into a home which has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a drawing room, study/fourth bedroom, and kitchen/dining room. The barn, of Cotswold stone with a slate roof, is believed to date back about 300 years, and offers around £110,000, and being sought by Lear and Lear's Chipping Campden office, and Jackson-Stops and Staff's Chipping Campden office.

The Manor Barns in the tiny village

of Barcheston, Shipton-on-Stour, were sold unconverted 12 months ago to a builder, who has created four imaginative homes in an L-shaped development. They range in price from £43,500 for a two-bedroomed cottage to £88,500 for one with four bedrooms and three reception rooms, and the interest in the properties indicates the demand for this sort of development when it is properly and sensitively done. The joint agents are Jackson-Stops and Robert Harper and Co., of Shipton-on-Stour.

Plaque of a horse

Back to the unconverted, Strutt and Parker's Grantham, Lincolnshire, office, are offering Manor Farm Barn, Greatford, near Stamford, Lincolnshire - a period barn with adjoining outbuildings suitable for conversion to provide one family house. Greatford is a conservation village in the valley of the River Glen, and the barn and outbuildings, which are close to the centre of the village, have been designated by the local planning authority as buildings of merit.

One of the buildings, a small square-hipped roofed building, displays a plaque of a horse, carved by Major C. L. Fitzwilliam during the 1930s and used for exhibitions at the Chelsea Flower Show to obtain orders for the embellishment of gardens. Offers around £25,000.

A brick and flint period barn at Shrewton, near Amesbury in Wiltshire, is for sale through Savills's Salisbury office.

Built on two floors offering about 1,360 square feet of floor space, the barn looks out over open fields in a quiet corner of the village. Planning consent for conversion to a single dwelling has been obtained, and Savills expert offers of about £50,000.

Country Property

SOUTH DEVON

Overlooking River Dart and Dartmouth Town. Unique 4th bedroomed residence with beautiful views of Dartmouth and the sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas, 2 kitchens, 2 dining rooms, 2 sitting rooms, 2 study rooms. Tel: 01-584 7704.

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